

The Crumb

The Official News Source of the Bread Loaf School of English

Volume 85, Number 1

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

**"A Book of Verses underneath the Bough, A Jug of Wine, a Loaf of Bread - and Thou
Beside me singing in the Wilderness- Oh, Wilderness were Paradise enow!"**

-Omar Khayyam, trans. Edward Fitzgerald

Schedule

9 AM - 4 PM
Registration
Blue Parlor

6 PM
Opening Banquet
Dining Hall

7:30 PM
**Opening
Ceremony**
Little Theater

Afterwards
Refreshments
West Lawn

Opening Banquet

Roast pork with
cilantro coconut
lime glaze or
white beans with
wilted dandelion,
tomato, and fennel
sauté; scalloped
potatoes; steamed
broccoli and
carrots; cornbread;
flan for dessert.

Weather

Today
Wet, 75°.

Tomorrow
Mostly sunny,
81°.

Thursday
Partly cloudy,
79°.

Great Expectations and Remembrance of Things Past

After tonight's Opening Banquet, make your way to the Burgess Meredith Little Theater, where the 85th session of the Bread Loaf School of English will **officially** open this evening at 7:30. Bread Loaf Director Jim Maddox, Associate Director Emily Bartels, and Middlebury College President John McCardell will have words of welcome for you – whether you're new to Bread Loaf, new only to the Vermont campus, or familiar enough with this place to nod knowingly at yet another rendition of the engagingly bizarre story of Joseph Battell. They'll apprise you of the exciting things afoot for this summer and fill you in on noteworthy happenings from the past year. Refreshments will follow in the Barn.

Oh, the Places You'll Go!

By tomorrow, you'll be striding confidently around the campus like an old hand. Today, however, you may feel bewildered by the array of people to meet, places to go, and events to attend. Use the map on the back of this issue to help you locate where you are, where you need to go, and where you'll spend the afternoons in an Adirondack chair, reading the *Inferno* and flailing ineffectually at insect life attempting to inflict upon you agonies previously reserved for the usurers in the Seventh Circle.

Inn Keepers Keep Informed

Stationed behind the counter from which you acquired this publication are the familiar, or soon-to-be-familiar, faces of Innkeepers Edward and Victoria Brown and the rest of the Front Desk staff: Peter Newton, Kalli Federhofer, MacNair Randall, and Joy MacVey. They will cash your checks, sort your mail, FedEx or UPS your packages, sell you stamps and postcards, man the switchboard, provide refuge to lost objects until they become found, and generally keep their eyes open, ears to the ground, noses in the air and fingers on Bread Loaf's pulse. Accordingly, they can answer just about any question you might have (Ed will almost surely answer several questions you didn't know you had), making the Front Desk the real nerve center of Bread Loaf.

Back and Blue

Make your way down the hall in the rear west corner of the Inn between 9 and 5 today. First, mark your hometown with a pushpin on the map posted in the hall. Then register for the summer in the Blue Parlor, where the smiling faces of the Bread Loaf Office staff and other College officials will contrast starkly with the glowering visage of Joseph Battell, whose portrait hangs above the fireplace. These friendly representatives will make sure that your course selections are accurate, your vehicle properly registered, your health forms up to date, and your financial obligations satisfied.

Office Spaces

The heartiest cheers on Opening Night are deservedly reserved for the staff of the Bread Loaf Office, for without their collective efforts, the campus would inexorably devolve into an anarchy reminiscent of *Lord of the Flies*. (Gilmore, however, fuels the theory that their considerable powers nonetheless diminish beyond a half-mile radius, and the staff can do nothing to alter the fickle Vermont weather or your looming paper deadline.)

In the former Inn Seminar Room – just out the back door of the Inn – Judy Jessup and Sandy LeGault are the people to see regarding fellowships, transferring credits, or letters of recommendation. The main Bread Loaf office is just outside the Blue Parlor; there, Elaine Lathrop, Lexa DeCourval, and Karen Brown can change course selections, set up appointments with the Directors, provide access to the School's fax machine for a nominal fee, or attend to any other administrative concerns.

Our Library Is Dukedom Large Enough

The Davison Library houses a relatively thorough (if slightly dated) collection and all the reserve texts for every Bread Loaf course, with anything else from Middlebury's extensive library holdings easily summoned up from campus with a few keystrokes. Chris Brady and the rest of this summer's Davison staff can minister to your every bibliotechnical need.

Davison provides studying environments for every personality and situation – pounding out the draft of your Epic Homecomings paper may demand the Spartan furnishings of the second floor, where typing is allowed, while a rainy afternoon with Annie Proulx invites the more Epicurean pleasure of the newly reupholstered sofa in front of a crackling fire. Please use the first-floor computers only for library research or other typing-free activity, as even the muted clicks of computer keys can be terribly distracting.

Cellar's Market

The Bookstore is located in the Annex basement and stocks course texts, health & beauty supplies, snacks, phone cards, and all manner of paraphernalia bearing various Bread Loaf insigniae. Ed Brown and the Front Desk staff double as your Book-Keepers this summer; they'll be open for business from 2-5 today and 8:30-3 tomorrow, after which normal hours (posted on the Bookstore door) will resume. For this week at least, please purchase texts only for classes in which you are enrolled. After then, there will still be surplus copies of *Dombey and Son* available for use as doorstops, high-density insect swatters, or free weights, or just for a little light pleasure reading during the copious free time you'll surely have after completing your secondary reading, contributing to BreadNet forums, and meeting for paper conferences.

Getting P.O.'d

The Front Desk doubles as the Bread Loaf Rural Post Office; as mentioned previously, you can buy stamps and ship packages there. Incoming mail is usually sorted by lunchtime; outgoing mail should be deposited in the slot in the door to the left of the mailboxes by 4 p.m. (2 p.m. on Saturday).

Be aware that the limited number of P.O. boxes means that most everyone shares a mailbox with another student, so that unexpected but compelling issue of the *New Yorker* is probably the property of your box buddy and not a gift from the legendary Mail Fairy.

Still PC to Say "Apple Cellar"

Tucked beneath the north end of the Library is the Apple Cellar, whose rustic name conceals its cutting-edge technology and obscures the fact that most of its machines are PCs. Caroline Eisner and her staff of assistants will always be available to answer questions such as "How do I use BreadNet?", "Why won't this %*\$&%#@ computer read my disk?", and "Do you think that *To The Lighthouse* is more an encapsulation of the ironies of matriarchal morality or a refutation of the impulse to elevate aesthetic sensibility to the level of philosophical truth? This is due in ten minutes." Please pay for your laser printing – we operate on the honor system but prefer that you subscribe to Odysseus' definition of "honor" as opposed to Falstaff's.

A Lesson Before Dining

You'll get fed far more than bread here at the Loaf, but you'll need to remember the prescribed weekday meal times: 7:30 for breakfast, 12:45 for lunch, and 6:00 for dinner. The waitstaff, under the leadership of Headwaiters Gary Montano and Lea Kelley, will give you food for thought and caffeine for composition, but remember that they're *student* waiters, with classes to attend and papers to write, just like you. Please win their affection by arriving promptly and not lingering too long over that last cup of coffee.

Dining Hall symbolism isn't nearly as hard to decode as Hester Prynne's "A." An "X" of crossed silverware marks the spot as reserved for someone else, and tables whose chairs are leaning forward are not in service for that meal.

Weekend meals are self-service; the hours will be published in a future *Crumb*. Meal tickets for those not on the room and board plan can be purchased at the Front Desk; inquire there for this year's costs.

Bearin' Barren Bar in Barn

The Barn Snack Bar remains inoperative this summer, but Bread Loaf still provides for those who eat between meals while reading between the lines. Late risers can grab coffee and pastries from the Dining Hall until 10:00; night owls will find fruit and more coffee in the Barn after dinner. Of course, the Barn vending machines will gladly dispense various combinations of high-fructose corn syrup, xanthan gum, and Red Dye #4 at any hour of the day or night.

The Spot To Get Out Damned Spots

The small white hut between Larch and the Barn houses Bread Loaf's laundry facilities. Washing and drying cost \$1 each, and the Front Desk can usually supply you with quarters. Fair warning: as the summer progresses, more and more washers and dryers will ingest your rattle and hum convincingly, yet effect no discernible change upon garments in return. Although physical aggression might seem a tempting and potentially cathartic option at that point, please respond instead to such adversity with the withering sarcasm or choice epithets worthy of a School of English student.

Patients Must Not Minister to Themselves

Instead, they should stagger, hobble, or limp across Route 125 to the Cornwall Clinic, where the Bread Loaf RN's can provide care for most routine medical issues, including writer's cramp and paper cuts. (Writer's block, unfortunately, is a condition beyond even their formidable talents and may require "alternative medicine" in the form of a Frost Trail circuit or a salubrious outing to the Waybury.) Clinic hours are posted on the front door. In an emergency, always call an ambulance first (9-388-3333), then alert the Front Desk. For an after-hours emergency, call the ambulance, then extension 2713 (Ed & Victoria) or 9-388-7703 (Jim Maddox).

Inn Security

As Ed Brown would tell you in his own inimitable fashion, you have not just checked in to the Waldorf-Astoria; you have arrived at Bread Loaf, where you will find many of the outside world's sensible precautions relaxed or rendered entirely superfluous. Your room can always be locked from the inside, but if that doesn't soothe your soul, you can still obtain a room key from the Front Desk. Be aware, however, that *both* you and your roommate (if you have one) must show up together in order to receive keys. Any resulting lock-outs, however accidental, will incur a \$25 fee.

Imperil-elled Parking

Once you've settled in, make sure your vehicle gets safely stowed in the large lot in front of the Barn, which is the *only* acceptable location for student vehicles. Parking along Route 125 is expressly prohibited. Residents of the remoter dormitories – Gilmore, Tamarack, and Brandy Brook – receive special dispensation from this otherwise blanket prohibition and are the only students allowed to park at their residences. Parking behind the Inn is also out of the question, as doing so obstructs emergency vehicles, food delivery trucks, and laundry service vans.

The sudden arrival of three hundred out-of-state visitors usually prompts the state troopers to dust off their radar guns and couch themselves along 125, so don't take the hairpin turns at hair-raising speeds.

Silence is the Perfectest Herald of Joy

So said Shakespeare, and – who are we to argue with *him*? – so says Bread Loaf. Remember that radios and CD players are immensely distracting (when turned on, that is, not inherently), so always use headphones. And while evenings of conversation and companionship on dorm porches are rightly to be cherished, at 11 PM you'll need to adjourn to the Barn or otherwise disperse.

"Number Two's" Number Three

Unable or unwilling to contemplate summer without Bread Loaf, 2003 graduates Jamie Perry, Ana Silva, and Jen Welch have returned to the Mountain as this year's Assistants to the Director. Together, they'll run the Friday night films, dispense refreshments at Barn dances and receptions, enforce the aforementioned 11 p.m. noise ordinance, and generally make sure the summer runs smoothly. Any appearance of ubiquity and/or omniscience on their part should come as no surprise, as superhuman feats are casually stipulated in their contracts. That, however, shouldn't stop you from saying "thanks" now and again for their efforts.

Contacting the Outside World

Phones involve numbers, and numbers are more the forte of the Meat Loaf School of Mathematics, so here are some tips to help you non-numerical types get in touch with the real world.

Theories abound as to why the campus remains impenetrable to cellular signals. Some say that it's due to the local insect population buzzing at the precise frequency on which wireless carriers operate, while others hold that the tremendous synaptic energy of two hundred simultaneous contemplations of "gendered epistemology" and "post-Lacanian syllogisms" disrupts the time-space continuum in the vicinity of campus, allowing the "real world" and all its trappings to penetrate only sporadically. Whatever the reason, you'll have to use a land line or head down the Mountain to acquire some signal bars.

Campus phone directories should be located near each dorm phone. All Middlebury College extensions are four digits long. Note that the Front Desk's extension is 2700; dialing 0 will connect you to the main College switchboard, where no one will understand your questions about Suppressed Desires or Old Piney. To get an outside line, simply dial 9. If you find your dorm phone being unkindly monopolized, you can find a pay phone in the Inn lobby and a curiously situated phone booth outside the laundry room.

The Bread Loaf switchboard closes up shop at 11 each evening; after that hour, no incoming calls can be relayed to the dormitories. Outsiders can dial dorm phones directly at any hour by adding your floor's four-digit extension to (802)-388, and outgoing calls may be placed anytime. Please practice courtesy in your phone usage: remember that late-night phone conversations can redirect hallmates' paper stress squarely in your direction, and take messages unto others as you would have them take yours unto you.

Visiting the Outside World

Those who prefer not to negotiate the curves of 125 on their own can hitch a ride to Middlebury on the Front Desk's van, which leaves each weekday afternoon at 1:45 from the front of the Inn and returns by 4:30. There's only space for seven aboard, so it's best to reserve a spot on the sign-up sheet posted daily at the Front Desk.

News from the Outside World

There are those among us who, having subscribed to the *New York Times* for the summer, somehow fancy themselves worldly by professing to care about campaigns other than the one for Senior Class President, sporting events beyond Wimbleloaf, or social injustices other than those perpetrated by the Vermont Liquor Board. Why these people find the *Crumb*'s extremely local focus and meager two-color presentation woefully insufficient is beyond this writer's comprehension, but so be it. *Times* subscribers can pick up their copies at the Front Desk each morning, but should be warned that the *Crumb* Bum plans to lurk in the Inn lobby and note any such persons, the better to spread scurrilous and blissfully unfounded gossip about them in future *Crumbs* as retribution for their perceived ingratitude.

It's Easy Being Green

The crystal-clear instructions on the recycling containers present just about everywhere on campus are, collectively, just about the only "text" around here in which no embedded meanings, ironic significances, or coded dialectics can be plausibly discerned. Put glass in the containers marked "glass," paper in those marked "paper," and so forth. Vermont state law mandates our commitment to this program, so you'd better fall into line. Little things help, too. Turn off lights in unoccupied rooms. Use a travel mug or Nalgene bottle instead of disposable cup after disposable cup. And deposit spent batteries at the Front Desk, where they will receive a brief eulogy and then an environmentally sound disposal.

No Smoke, No Fire

Vermont state law prohibits smoking in *all* public buildings (including our dormitories), and Bread Loaf prohibits smoking on the front porch of the Inn, as the smoke tends to waft inside to others' discomfort. If you opt to smoke elsewhere, please exterminate all smoking material in the sand pails placed around campus for that purpose. The campus smoke detectors are easily triggered; if your room alarm goes off, air out the room and fan the smoke or hairspray away from the alarm. Chirping, buzzing, or twittering smoke detectors are pleading for a new battery, which the Front Desk can provide. Chirping, buzzing, or twittering animals are perfectly normal for Vermont, and under no circumstances should attempts be made to equip *them* with new batteries.

Also, as you are under the auspices of a College, you must also abide by the uniquely collegiate regulation prohibiting even the smallest appliances – coffee makers, microwaves, hair dryers, and the like – in your dorm rooms. Bread Loaf's electrical system still retains its 19th-century fragility, and these modern marvels overburden the circuits and increase the risk of fire. (Happily, the bathrooms are wired to handle hair dryers.) Contraband items have been known to disappear suddenly from dorm rooms, later to be quietly absorbed by the local citizenry at Trader Jim's End-of-Summer Yard Sale.

As you can tell, the days can get downright chilly up here, and sometimes there's nothing to compare to the pleasure of sitting in front of a crackling fire. Be aware, however, that any outdoor fire requires a permit; if you talk to Ed at least 48 hours in advance, he'll arrange things with the local authorities.

To An Athlete Dying To Play

Fire destroyed Bread Loaf's outdoor bowling alley in 1931, but the very real pain of its absence is somewhat salved by the myriad athletic opportunities available this summer.

Ultimate Frisbee will kick off (throw off?) its traditional Wednesday/Sunday schedule tomorrow after dinner. Regular soccer, softball, and basketball games have been staples of recent summers as well; would-be coordinators of these events should contact the *Crumb* with suggested meeting times. (Note: Although Robert Frost did occasionally respond to long fly outs by chasing the offending outfielder into the woods, brandishing a bat and shouting "You bastard! You bastard!", Emily Bartels assures the *Crumb* that no such behavior by this year's faculty will be *officially* countenanced.)

Tennis players can use the clay courts outside the Library for practicing, playing official Wimbleloaf matches, or (for the brave and foolish) challenging David Huddle to a set or three. After dinner, however, David prefers the friendly competition of our nightly volleyball match.

Unbelievably, \$100 buys you a full summer membership at Middlebury's challenging but friendly golf course, and it's never too early to start practicing for the traditional end-of-summer Scramble tournament. Frisbee golf enthusiasts can supplement the meaningful discourse of their classes with the meaningful disc course around campus. Gary Montano or Jon Freeman can show you the layout.

The abundance of paths and roads around Bread Loaf (some paved, some less traveled, perhaps even a few still lying in leaves no step has trodden black) comes as welcome news to joggers, walkers, hikers, and bikers.

Middlebury College's extensive athletic facilities also include an Olympic-sized swimming pool, a field house, and a complete fitness center. You need only show your student I.D. to gain admittance.

A Kids' Summer's Nice Dream

"CROUTONS" is Bread Loaf's day camp for the under ten crew – but they don't spend their time in seminars such as "Representation As Reality: The Aesthetics of Liminality in *Harold and the Purple Crayon*." Instead, the Mary Johnson Children's Center offers a lively and enriching program at the Ripton Elementary School on Lincoln Road. If you need more information or already know that you'd like your child to attend, call the Child Center at 388-2853.

Hall's Well That Tens Well

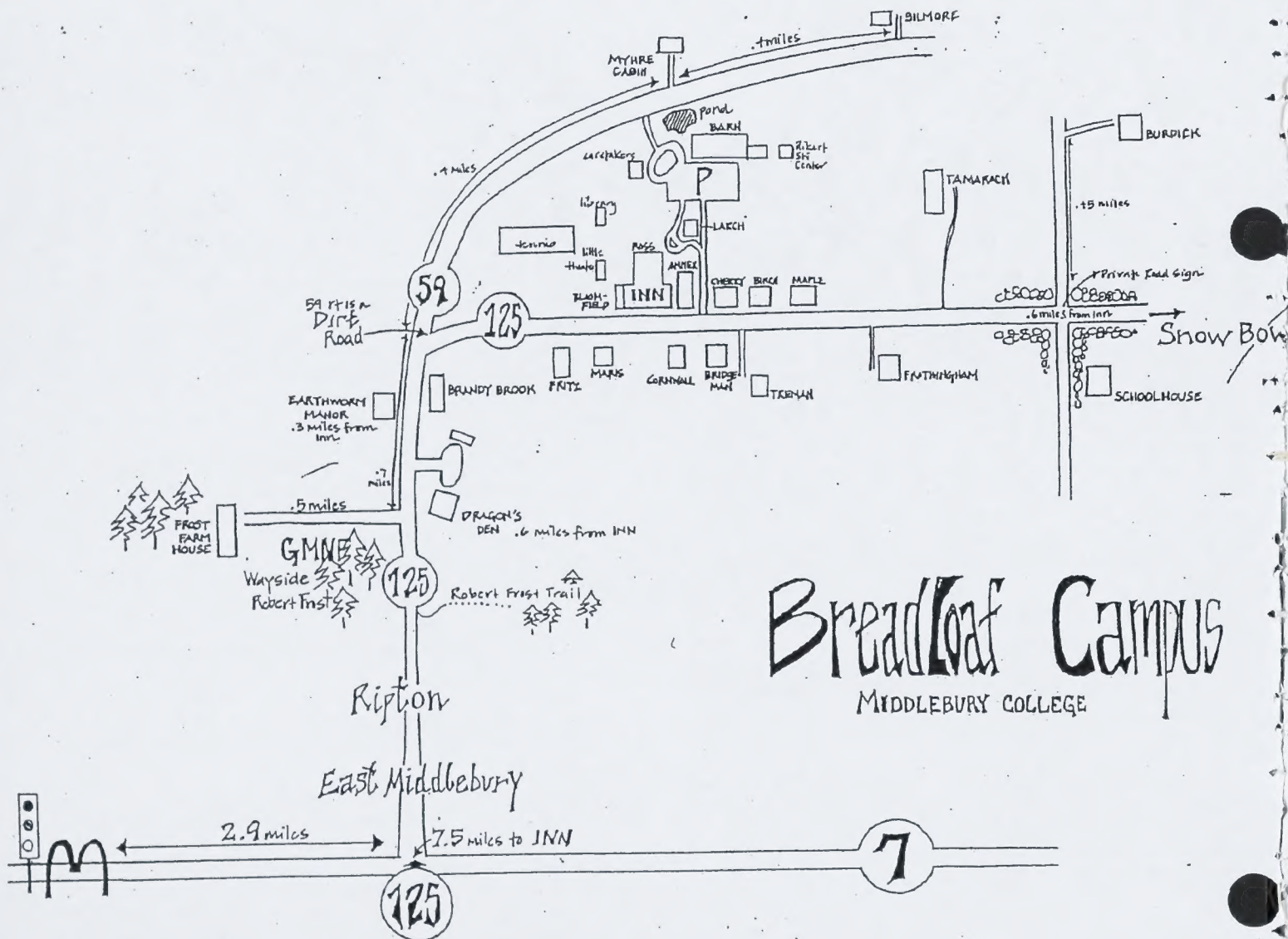
Nothing builds dorm spirit like brainstorming submissions for Bread Loaf's weekly Letterman ripoff, the Top Ten competition, back by executive decision (because there was no time to gauge popular demand). Bond with your new hallmates and friends by brainstorming (or taking directly from experience) your **Top Ten (or so) Signs That You've Chosen The Wrong Class** and submitting them to the *Crumb* Bum by Friday at lunch.

The *Crumb* Bum has taken the further liberty of dividing the campus into teams for this competition, the better to further dorm spirit and/or internecine conflict. Determine to which of the following groups you owe allegiance: the perennially victorious **Men of Annex**, the **Guys of Gilmore**, the **Women of Cherry**, the **Inhabitants**, the **Ladies of Larch**, the **Children of Barn East**, **Team Tamarack**, the **Off-Campus Contingent**, the **Waitstaff**, the **Theater Staff**, the **Faculty and Administration**, the **Front Desk**, and any other group I've neglected to mention.

Crumb'll Live With You, And Be Your Loaf

The *Crumb* is your daily source of recent news, upcoming events, all sorts of announcements, a notoriously undependable weather forecast, the dinner menu, and dozens of strained literary puns. You can grab your hot-off-the-presses (warm-from-the-copies really) edition around noon each weekday at the Front Desk outside the Dining Hall entrance. The *CyberCrumb*, an electronic version of this publication, is posted each morning in the CyberBarn for our peers in Oxford, New Mexico, and Alaska as well as for the extended Bread Loaf family eager to keep tabs on campus news and alumni suffering from annual late-June pangs of nostalgia.

Send your moose sightings, requests for rides to the airport, or any other announcements of note to *Crumb* Bum Jon Freeman's mailbox (actual or cyber-) by 11 AM for inclusion in that day's issue. Take care not to get him confused with Professor Jonathan Freedman; the *Crumb* Bum's advice about your "Jewish and Other Others" paper topic will almost assuredly prove suspect, while the professor will receive your news with interest but fail to generate the campuswide publicity for which you had hoped.



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The Official News Source of the Bread Loaf School of English

Volume 85, Number 2

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

The Puzzler

Who, when told he had won the Nobel Prize for Literature, responded, "Stop babbling, for God's sake, how much is it worth?"

Schedule

5 p.m.
Senior Reception
Earthworm Manor

7 p.m.
Auditions for
Measure for Measure and
The Beard of Avon
Theater

7 p.m.
Ultimate Frisbee
Field

Menu

Cornish game hen
with raspberry
sauce or tricolor
pasta with
zucchini, yellow
squash, tomato
saute and vegan
Alfredo; rolls; ice
cream for dessert.

Weather

Today
Lovely. 77/53.

Tomorrow
Scattered storms.
79/59.

Friday
More scattered
storms. 71/52.

Measure Seeks Pleasure of Your Company

Later this summer, Bread Loaf will find itself transformed into a den of lust, deceit, and disguise. *After Suppressed Desires*, it'll happen again, in what promises to be a stunning production of Shakespeare's dark comedy *Measure for Measure*. If you're interested in getting involved in the production, you should make your way to the Theater tonight at 7 to audition for one of the **fourteen** roles in *Measure*, or the two in the staged reading of Amy Freed's *The Beard of Avon*, that will be played by members of the Bread Loaf community. You do not need to prepare anything for the audition, although copies of the plays are available in the library for your perusal.

Those unsure of their potential as performers should be heartened by Bread Loaf's long tradition of student and faculty involvement in the summer's productions, and by Alan MacVey's consummate skill at eliciting thespian triumphs from amateur artists. Heed Lucio's advice: "Our doubts are traitors, / And makes us lose the good we oft might win, / By fearing to attempt."

Faye Christensen also needs backstage and technical help, so if you're less interested in treading the boards than in the boards themselves, chat with her during the auditions tonight or stop by the Theater office anytime.

Seniors Receive Worm Reception

Like all graduating classes, the Vermont seniors will undoubtedly get all teary-eyed contemplating parting with such fast friends at summer's end, perhaps even going to the lengths of scribbling "©Friends4Ever©" or "BL '04 RULZZ!!!" in the margins of each other's copies of *The Faerie Queene*. First, however, they need to get to know each other, since one of the many peculiarities of Bread Loaf is the fact that with five campuses in full swing, the seniors often don't meet each other until their final summer. That will be remedied this afternoon at 5, when Jim Maddox hosts an informal reception for Vermont's Class of 2004 at Earthworm Manor. There, the seniors will mingle with the faculty and, for the last several hundred times, ask and answer "What classes are you taking?"

New Students Should Mind Their Manors

All students new to Bread Loaf or just new to Vermont should make their way to Earthworm Manor tomorrow afternoon at 5 for an informal reception with Jim Maddox and representatives of the Bread Loaf staff. Earthworm Manor is within easy walking distance of campus; it's the small white cottage just west of the Inn on 125. If the weather forecast is accurate and stormy weather returns, the reception will be in the Barn.

The Director cordially reminds the faculty that they are **not** invited to this reception, as apparently some jokester professors liked to intimidate new students by opening conversations not with "What classes are you taking?" or "Where are you from?", but with "Of course, by now you've read all the material I put on reserve" or "I find the Thornton translation of Goethe a bit *schlampig*, don't you?"

Emergency Information

Bread Loaf nurse practitioner Yvette Feig passes along the useful info that the Cornwall Clinic, Bread Loaf's infirmary, will be open on weekdays from 8-2.

Emerging Sea Information

Outgoing Middlebury President John McCardell leaves Bread Loaf not with a bang, not with a whimper, but with a distinct and long-anticipated splash. Raucous applause greeted his announcement that by next summer at the latest (and possibly by the end of this summer), the dam and pond washed away in a 2000 storm will be restored, providing future generations of Bread Loafers with a place to escape the occasional blistering weather or, as was tradition, to follow a night of Barn dancing with a late-night dip *au naturel*.

Once known as Johnson Pond, the oasis in its new incarnation will be known, in tribute to the man Jim Maddox consistently calls "the best Presidential friend Bread Loaf has ever had," as John's Pond. This name is the latest shrunken Johnson the pond has generated, but certainly not the last, as there are no plans to install a subterranean water-heating system in the new version.

In past summers, we've sent John McCardell hundreds of signatures on petitions clamoring the restoration of the pond; now that our wish has been granted, we'd like to send him another couple of hundred signatures, this time on a heartfelt thank-you card. Check the Dining Hall bulletin board for more info.

Meet Bartels & James For Cooler Chat

New students should also make an appointment to meet with Jim Maddox or Emily Bartels sometime in the next week. Elaine can help you find a convenient meeting time. Rest assured that the Directors only want to find out more about you and your impressions of Bread Loaf; they will not use the conversation to determine whether you are the single, grave Admissions Office mistake Jim mentioned in his remarks last night. (That individual was discreetly bundled into a taxi at the conclusion of the opening ceremony, shouting protestations of "Me not belong at English learning place? That's impossible!" that make such drastic action seem entirely warranted.)

Go Gently Into That Good Night

We'll give you a free pass for last night's late-night gatherings around campus, but henceforward, please abide by the sensible request that social gatherings on the Annex porch or elsewhere need to adjourn by 11:00 or decamp to the Barn, where you may continue the conviviality to your heart's content.

Lord, Lord, How This World Is Given To Lying

When my first *Crumb* swore that it was made of truth, I did believe it – though now I know it lied. Please don't think me some untutored youth unlearned in the Loaf's false subtleties; just note these corrections of information from yesterday's *Crumb*:

- Late risers in search of mid-morning coffee and pastries should find them set out in the **Barn** after 10:00 on weekdays. Students should not be in the kitchen at any time between meals.
- Campus extensions can be dialed directly from off campus by adding them to **443**, not 388.
- Summer student memberships at the Middlebury golf course will run you not \$100, but the princely sum of **\$75**.
- In an emergency, dialing 9-911 will work just as well as 9-388-3333.

Something To Make You Hurl

Follow the disc-ussions, disc-overies, and disc-erning, discriminating commentary of the first day of classes by hurling a disc around this evening at 7, when the Ultimate Frisbee crowd will assemble for an hour or so of friendly and fun competition. The feature attraction of the evening is the long-awaited return of Frisbee Founding Father Gary Montano, sidelined for most of last summer with a broken finger suffered in the opening contest.

BLTN Will Be Lively Thursday Night

Dixie announces that the Bread Loaf Teacher Network will hold its first meeting of the summer tomorrow night from 7-9 in Barn 1.

Commencement Communication Commences

Seniors should remember that the very important first formal class meeting will take place on Friday at 5 in the Blue Parlor. There, you will elect a Commencement speaker from the ranks of the faculty, a hoodler from the ranks of the staff or Acting Ensemble, and a Senior Class President from your own ranks. Do not be alarmed when Jamie, Ana, and Jen ask to measure your head; this phrenological phenomenon is merely the way to guarantee that your graduation cap fits snugly.

Friday Features Free Food, Film

Friday night brings both guests and Guest to campus. First, everyone in the Bread Loaf community – off-campus students, their families, **everyone** – is invited to a cookout dinner at 6:00. We hope that plenty of you will then stick around for Christopher Guest's *Waiting for Guffman*, a hilarious mockumentary of the musical celebration of a small town's sesquicentennial. Showtime is 9:00 in the Barn.

Jolly Wood Squares

The entire forest will be hopping on Saturday night, when Francis Cram and his band make their annual trek up the Mountain for another Bread Loaf Square Dance. Early arrivals receive the best instruction from caller Tom Bahre, whereas latecomers invariably end up on the receiving end of a glare of sheer disdain when they can't get their birdie in the cage or dig for the oyster when they were supposed to dive for the clam. Snacks and refreshments, frothy and non-frothy, will be provided to sustain you through several squares.

Waiting For Dough? Go.

Students seeking some financial relief might consider joining the Waitstaff, whose members receive their room and board free of charge. Headwaiters Lea Kelley and Gary Montano have three and a half positions open on their crew. See them if you're interested in this opportunity or just want to know what being a half-waiter entails – taking orders, then not filling them? Saying "Would you like roast beef or"?

Gourley Man Seeks Ride, Will Pump You Up

If you're going to the Middlebury College gym, the health food store, or elsewhere down the Mountain, Hunter Gourley will help pay for the gas in exchange for a ride. Ideally, he'd like to arrange a sort of frequent traveler plan around someone's regular schedule. Give him a call at extension 2377 or drop a note in his P.O. box.

Sitter Sought

Deborah Smith is searching for someone willing to babysit her 18-month-old son at varying times on weeknights and weekends. She's living in Hancock and so would prefer someone with his or her own car. If you might be able to help, you can call her at (802) 767-4823, try her somewhat less reliable cell phone, (508) 740-8064, or simply drop her a note.

Smells Like Team Spirit

The summer's only one day old, but already the *Crumb* senses stirrings around campus as dorms and staffs scramble to devise the cleverest submissions to this week's Top Ten list, **Top Ten Signs That You've Chosen The Wrong Class**. It has been noted that a significant portion of the talent responsible for last summer's Men of Annex victory has defected to Barn East, making that dorm a formidable challenger. Will Gilmore, Larch, or another dorm step up? Will the Theater Staff rediscover the talents that made them the team to beat in the mid-90's? Will the faculty deign to grace the competition with their presence? All will be revealed when the list is published in Friday's *Crumb*; get your submissions to Jon Freeman by 11:00 that morning for consideration.

Spend A Second Coming Up With An Answer

Today's *Crumb* inaugurates the traditional summerlong Puzzler competition. Each day, look in the top left-hand corner of the front page for a literary trivia question to answer, a picture to identify, or a quotation to place. The *Crumb* Bum does his best to ensure that the Puzzler is Google-proofed; to the best of his knowledge, you won't find the quoted passage in today's question anywhere online. **A clue does lurk in one of today's headlines, so scour them carefully...**

Send your answer to the *Crumb* Bum by campus mail, BreadNet, word of mouth, semaphore flags, or any other means you deem expedient. Your prize? The glorious fodder for your vanity provided by seeing your name in print in the next day's *Crumb*.

The Crumb

The Official News Source of the Bread Loaf School of English

Volume 85, Number 3

Thursday, June 24, 2004

The Puzzler

Who served as Britain's poet laureate for seven years, but never wrote a single poem during that time?

Schedule

5 p.m.
New Student
Reception
Earthworm/Barn

7-9 p.m.
BLTN Meeting
Barn 1

9 p.m.
Gilmore

Menu

Marinated haddock with spinach garlic butter or balsamic marinated tomato with penne and fresh mozzarella; vegetable mélange; honey oat bread; carrot cake for dessert.

Weather

Today
Scattered storms.
83/60.

Tomorrow
A few showers.
71/53.

Weekend
A mixed bag.
74/52.

All at Once You'll See a Crowd, a Host

If you're looking for this afternoon's informal reception for new students, just stroll down 125 at 5:00; soon, you'll spot the aforementioned crowd of students and your host, Jim Maddox, on the lawn of Earthworm Manor. Unless it's raining, that is, in which case the entire event will be moved to the Barn. Either way, you'll have a chance to get to know fellow students and the Bread Loaf staff, many of whom will be there to greet you.

BLTN Bulletin

A reminder to all Bread Loaf Teacher Network members: Your first gathering of the summer is this evening from 7-9 in Barn 1. We presume that Dixie will preside over this meeting with her customary geniality; although Jim praised her for acting "completely without scruple" during the past year, the Crumb prefers to believe that she reserves such mercenary tendencies for those craven souls from whom she seeks only to pry lucre to fund her beneficence.

Bitter Battell Battered, Bettered

The good news for Joseph Battell is that someone will actually turn the pages of a copy of *Ellen* this evening. The bad news is that the page-turners are the Men of Gilmore, and their motive is humiliation, pure and simple. They seek a passage incoherent or vaguely suggestive enough to read to the crowd at their traditional Thursday night get-together, one that will elicit hoots of derisive laughter at Battell's turgid prose and harebrained conceit.

Battell is but the opening act for a reading from a mystery faculty member. And a perfect opening act he is, for nothing – and I mean *nothing* – suffers by comparison to *Ellen*.

Everyone is invited to this staple of the Bread Loaf experience; the reading will begin shortly after 9:00. To get there, follow the main driveway past the Barn and take a right at the bottom of the hill. Gilmore is half a mile up the road. Bring a flashlight if you plan to walk, and watch for flashlight-bearing pedestrians if you drive. And be sure to chip in for your refreshments to prevent the Men of Gilmore from having to pawn their dorm furniture to cover expenses.

Small Towns Provide Friday's Laughs

First, the entire population of Bread Loaf is invited to a 6 p.m. cookout or a cook-in, depending on the weather. Either way, we hope you'll have fun at dinner and stick around for the first Friday night film, *Waiting for Guffman*. This mock documentary chronicles the preparations for *Red, White, and Blaine*, a musical celebration of the sesquicentennial of an imaginary Missouri town known for stools, alien visits, and little else. Deep and abiding wisdom abounds in the film; the Acting Ensemble might find it useful to recall travel agent Ron Albertson's advice that during a production, "If there's an empty space, just fill it with a line, that's what I like to do. Even if it's from another show." The film starts at 9 p.m.

Be the Star of Your Texas Star

Come one, come all to Saturday's Square Dance – but above all, come *early*. The sooner you discern the subtle difference between allemande left and promenade right, the better you'll be able to keep your Texas Star from collapsing into an embarrassing black hole. The festivities run from 9-12; beverages and snacks will be provided by the Director's Assistants.

Direct Your Attention to Directors

New students should also stop by the Office to set up a time to chat at greater length with either Jim or Emily. Some suggested icebreakers for your conversation: "I expect *some* sort of Italian villa-campus by the time I graduate." "Tell me, what was Robert Frost like?" "So, what were you doing in a Hyatt sports bar in the first place?"

Seniors Feeling Blue Already

Having just settled back in to the Bread Loaf lifestyle, seniors must already begin contemplating the end of the summer. Tomorrow's 5 p.m. meeting in the Blue Parlor is extremely important. Seniors should give some thought between now and then to classmates who would make fine class presidents, professors who would deliver wonderful Commencement speeches, and actors or staff members who might serve as the hoodier.

Houses of Ill Repute Other Than Gilmore

Everyone is encouraged to attend next Monday's Elizabeth Drew Memorial Lecture. Our speaker this year will be the esteemed Jean Howard, professor at Columbia, who has taken a page either from Arthur Little's course description or Emily Bartels' television viewing habits and titled her lecture "Sex and the Early Modern City: Staging the Bawdy Houses of Early Modern London." The lecture begins at 7:30 in the Little Theater.

Fond of John's Pond?

The card thanking President McCardell for the soon-to-be-restored pond has been posted on the Dining Hall bulletin board. Please contribute your signature by the end of the week, as we need to hustle the whole thing down to him before he leaves office next week.

Entreaty for Entry T's

By now, most of you have been here for two whole days, so it should be no problem for you to distill the essence of the Bread Loaf experience into an artistic rendering suitable for this summer's T-shirt. Send your submissions to Ana Silva. The winner will receive \$50, enough to purchase most of *The Riverside Chaucer*, a week's supply of Deep Woods Off®, or forty bottles of Gatorade from the Barn vending machine, none of which will actually be dispensed by the frustratingly contrary contraption.

It's The Moose Wonderful Time Of The Year

Once again, it didn't take long for the *Crumb* Bum to be deluged with sightings of wildlife on Route 125. Laurie Clark saw a moose on Tuesday, Peter Newton broke up a fox-versus-skunk fight by driving by the scene of the altercation yesterday, and Kalli Federhofer spotted a bear and three foxes last weekend. More alarming is the recent increase of grouse acting strangely; Jen Welch met one crossing the road (insert joke here) this morning, and Lucy Maddox was pursued down 125 by a particularly menacing specimen earlier this week. Early indications, perhaps, that the grouse, roused by the appearance on last night's menu of their cousins, the Cornish Game Hens, are bent on revenge.

You will have to pardon the *Crumb* Bum for not engaging in any fauna-fawning this summer, but he's a bit bitter that the closest he's come to a moose in his eight-plus Bread Loaf summers has been the stuffed head in the Waybury pub. (He thought his long search had finally come to an end on the trip to Vermont, when he thought he spotted what appeared to be a very, very small moose scurrying across the roadway, but further review by Mrs. *Crumb* Bum determined that the creature in question was in fact a chipmunk.)

On the plus side, he can offer the following Moose-Spotting Tip #1 to his readers: Shun his company entirely.

19th-Century Buildings and the Meaning of Space

While there has been a lot of consternation about traffic flow and the general configuration of the Dining Hall serving areas, and while Bread Loaf generally deals with change in the same manner that a toddler deals with the concept of "later," rest assured that the Headwaiters and Dining Hall staff are working tirelessly to address concerns and devise a system that everyone finds sensible. Please bear with them as they strive to streamline service.

Chef Mike also notes that while serving sizes are a touch smaller this year, seconds are always available – just ask your server.

Phone-omenons and Box Befuddlement

The Front Desk would like to hear from anyone whose dorm phone is behaving strangely. The mailboxes, however, should be functioning perfectly, having few moving parts – so why there are so many boxes bulging with mail, magazines, and potentially urgent messages is a bit of a puzzle. Please make a habit of checking your box regularly.

Answering the Bell

Wondering why, when, or for whom the bell tolls? It tolls for several reasons, as it turns out. Ten minutes before the beginning of morning classes (at 8:35) and ten minutes before afternoon classes (at 1:50), you'll hear a "warning bell." After that, it will ring at the end of each class period and the beginning of each meal.

Barn Becomes Busy

The Barn was built during the "golden age of wireless," a time when a temperamental new mechanism broadcast the eloquent orations of William Jennings Bryan but corrupted America's youth with the unwholesome caterwauling of ragtime music. It has now survived to greet a second golden age, having been recently equipped with wireless transmitters. If your laptop doesn't have wireless capability, stay tuned; we're working on making wireless cards available through the Bookstore or the Apple Cellar.

You'll come to the Barn for the wireless access, but you'll stay for the late breakfast that will continue to be available by 9:30 or so; soon, you'll also find copies of the *New York Times* there as well. We hope that the Barn, newly equipped with these conveniences, becomes once again the living room of the Loaf – a space for reading, writing, and relaxing. Enjoy.

Crumb Classifieds

LOST: Handkerchief. Spotted with strawberries. Great sentimental value. No questions asked. Return to D., Box 2843.

I Can't Believe It's Yoga!

Pam Newton is working on organizing daily yoga classes in the Barn. Starting next week, she'll post a sheet every Monday on which interested volunteers can sign up to lead individual classes. Anyone interested in attending (not leading) can just show up anytime – no need to sign up. If you have any special requests or creative ideas about yoga, please talk to Pam.

New Courses Added for Added

Are you concerned about the high percentage of really big words and near-total lack of illustrations in your course books? Does your professor preface his responses to your comments with "Conceivably, in theory, yes, I suppose..."? Did you think "Writing the Watershed" primarily involved spray-painting graffiti on the sides of small pumphouses? If you answered "yes" (or "huh?") to any of the previous questions, you may want to consider the following last-minute additions to the Bread Loaf course catalog:

7391. Pondering the Pond/Mr. McCardell and the Army Corps of Engineers/T, F 1:54-4:07

An experiential seminar designed to explore the symbolic value of John's Pond. Any study of the pond as political entity must include the neglected voice of *Salvelinus fontinalis*, the brook trout, but we'll also consider the pond as ideological repository, examining prevailing cultural attitudes towards skinny-dipping as a means of personal expression. Given the nature of the course, class meetings cannot begin until students have waited half an hour after eating.

Texts: Henry David Thoreau, *Walden*; Rich Cohen, *Lake Effect*; Rohinton Mistry, *Swimming Lessons*; Environmental Protection Agency, *The Quick and Easy Way to Restore Idyllic Ponds in Unobtrusive Locations* (43 vols.).

7028. Chastity in the Country/Mr. Little/Sat. 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

This seminar, designed to complement "Sex and the City," will be studying the ways in which geography works to constrain intimacy in American fiction and nonfiction. Meeting times have been scheduled opposite Barn dances in the hopes that denying ourselves that locus of physical pleasure will sharpen our appreciation for the ideologies of abstemiousness. Suitable for the puritanical, the prudish, or the optimistically predatory who believe that the course will attract the demoralized, desperate, and very much available demographic.

Texts: Edith Wharton, *Ethan Frome*; Charles Frazier, *Cold Mountain*; Josephine McNair, *Pick-Ups and Put-Downs: The Romantic Exploits of the Guys of Gilmore* (pamphlet).

Few Knew Clue

The *Crumb* Bum pleads guilty to the charge of providing grossly misleading clues to yesterday's trivia question answer. Although the correct response was W. B. Yeats, as hinted in the headline "Take A Second Coming Up With An Answer," the unintentionally intriguing headline "Waiting For Dough? Go" led several logical people to conclude that Samuel Beckett was the author in question. As penance, the *Crumb* Bum has slathered himself with sugar water and presented himself as a sacrificial offering to the rapacious insect hordes; before doing so, however, he triple-checked today's headlines for any similar red herrings and is confident that the clue is in plainer view.

Directors Seek Top-Ten Top Ten Finish

A change in the division of teams for the Top Ten competition. Director Jim Maddox, appalled at having been lumped in with the rabble on the Faculty/Administration squad, has decreed that the Directors will secede from that short-lived union and submit responses separately, despite having finished a rather anemic thirteenth with the same stubbornly provincial strategy last year. Whatever your team affiliation, tonight's the last night to brainstorm your **Top Ten Signs That You've Chosen The Wrong Class**. The best responses will be published in tomorrow's *Crumb*. Send your submissions to Jon Freeman by 11 a.m. via campus mail or BreadNet.

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 4

Friday, June 25, 2004

The Puzzler

Which author concealed the secret door to his study with a false shelf of books such as Heaviside's Conversations with Nobody, The Quarrelly Review, Shelley's Oysters, Cat's Lives (9 volumes), and The Virtues of Our Ancestors – a book so thin the title had to be printed sideways?

Schedule

Today

Senior Meeting,
5 p.m.

All-School Cookout,
6 p.m.

Waiting for Guffman,
9 p.m.

Saturday

Square Dance,
9 p.m.-midnight

Sunday

Blue Parlor, 7 p.m.

Chimes at Midnight,
7:30 p.m.

Dinner Menu

Hamburgers, hot dogs, ribs, chicken, garden burgers, black bean burgers, salad, four-bean salad, cole slaw, corn, watermelon.

Weather

Today

A few showers.
72/52.

Weekend

Gradual clearing,
74/51.

Go to Picnic: Papers Can Wait

Whether the weather will cooperate with the plans to have an all-campus cookout this evening remains to be seen, but we hope that **you** will be seen on the West Lawn (or in the Dining Hall, if it rains) for the all-school picnic tonight at 6. Feel free to bring families and friends; the cookout is free for the entire Bread Loaf community, not just for those on the meal plan.

Guffman Measures Up to Measure

Sure, *Measure for Measure* is going to be fantastic later this summer. But Alan MacVey gets to hand-pick an ensemble of professional actors and talented amateurs from dozens of auditioners, while *Waiting for Guffman's* Corky St. Clair (Christopher Guest) has a decidedly inferior talent pool from which to draw: a dentist with a lazy eye (Eugene Levy), a travel agent who's never been out of town (Fred Willard) and his wife (Catherine O'Hara), a gum-chewing teenager whose only big ideas concern the Dairy Queen (Parker Posey), and a grease monkey (Matt Keeslar). And despite their inexperience, wooden delivery and near-total atonality, together they produce what might charitably be called a musical. Now, if they can slap *Red, White, and Blaine* together in a few short weeks, shouldn't we expect a bit more from this summer's production, given our vastly superior talent pool? Perhaps one night of *Measure for Measure* could be performed entirely in Finnish, or on unicycles, or without once using the letter "t." We'll have to wait and see; for now, come watch *Guffman* tonight at 9.

Seniors a Bunch of Numb Skulls

If the Director's Assistants wrap the measuring tape a little too tightly around your heads, that is. Those planning to graduate in August should attend the important senior class meeting at 5 in the Blue Parlor to elect a graduation speaker and hooder and get their heads measured. Candidates for Senior Class President will be re-measured after being nominated, as voters may conclude that a sudden increase in cranial circumference is a sign of overweening pride or despotic ambition.

A Barn? A Beer? Rush to Square Dance.

Don't forget tomorrow night's Square Dance from 9-12 in the Barn, where Francis Cram will provide the music, Tom Bahre the instructions, and Jamie, Jen, and Ana the cold beverages. If you intend to imbibe, make sure you bring an I.D.; without one, you won't be served.

Vermont vets may lament (or celebrate) the imminent demise of the curious state law prohibiting "lascivious carriage" – drinking *while* dancing. After July 1st, you can can-can with can in hand or swig while you jig, but for this week, it's still taboo. You'll need both hands free anyway for the Grand Right & Left and the Ladies' Chain.

Crumb Classifieds

FOR SALE: 9BR, 6BA L. Island estate. Splendid grounds, suitable for entertaining. Perfect for social climbers. Extensive library. Excellent views of Sound, green light. Swimming pool (minor stains). Hydroplane available; will negotiate price. Call Wolfshiem Realty & Dental Clinic, 739-0482.

Talk About More Bang for Your Buck

This year's Drew Lecture will be delivered by Jean Howard, the William B. Ransford Professor of English at Columbia University. At 7:30 on Monday, she will speak on "Sex and the Early Modern City: Staging the Bawdy Houses of Early Modern London." Such a lecture is in keeping with Bread Loaf's stated commitment to make all aspects of the summer experience available regardless of financial consideration – you'll receive intimate knowledge of the inner workings of a brothel without having to shell out the \$125 such an experience would normally set you back, and you won't be summarily ushered out of the Theater after fifteen stimulating minutes to make way for the next paying customer.

Words Worth Hearing

Sunday brings this summer's first Blue Parlor reading – a tradition a bit like Gilmore, except there's no fire, students read their own work, and Joseph Battell himself presides over the proceedings (his portrait hangs above the mantel). Byron Brown and Radha Rao are the two confirmed readers; two open slots remain, one of which you can claim by signing up at the Front Desk. The readings begin at 7:00 on Sunday, and light refreshments will be provided.

Time Allows Tuneful Turnings

If you said "Sing in me, Muse," and she took you literally, or if you recognize that the critical acclaim you so richly deserve will never come as long as your vocal stylings are confined to your shower, you should consider joining the Bread Loaf Madrigalists. The name is a bit of a misnomer, as this year's repertoire consists mostly of songs of recent vintage, with not a "fa la la" in sight. Well, maybe a few. To find out more, simply show up in the Barn at 4:45 on Monday for the group's first rehearsal.

Offered: "Lord Tennis" on Trophy

David Huddle is the undisputed king of the courts at Bread Loaf, but he graciously spreads the wealth by allowing others to compete for the coveted Wimbleloaf title. Signup sheets for Bread Loaf's annual summer tennis tournament will soon be posted outside the Dining Hall. Five simultaneous tournaments will be contested: men's and women's singles, men's and women's doubles, and mixed doubles. Sign up for as many as you wish (although no more than the maximum number for which your gender renders you eligible).

Double Bill Defies Description

On Tuesday night, you'll be treated to performances from two incandescent talents, Ellen McLaughlin and Rinde Eckert. Ellen will read from her own version of *Oedipus*, which she's preparing for its theatrical debut. Then, Rinde will present a performance based on the story of Ulysses; all the *Crumb* can say about that is that it's hard enough to find words *after* the fact to describe one of Rinde's performances, let alone *before* it. Let's just say that it will be memorable, transplendent, and well worth attending.

May We Have Some More Signatures?

Please, please, *please* sign the card on the Inn bulletin board thanking John McCardell for his generosity in returning our long-lost pond to us. It would be dismal indeed if, receiving but a few paltry expressions of gratitude, McCardell were to decide that Bread Loaf deserved not a full-fledged pond, but a mere swimmin' hole, dunk tank, or mud puddle (despite the possibilities of the latter – splashing around, building drip castles, Friday Night Faculty Wrestling...but I digress).

If you are one of the many students who, having no memory of the pond formerly known as Johnson (???-2000), think it a bit odd to rejoice at the return of something you never knew was lost, sign your name anyway and consider yourself the voice of one of the many Bread Loaf alums who are thrilled for you at having this pleasant idyll restored to its former glory (and frigidity).

Library Opens; Shouts of Joy Quickly Shushed

Although the new Middlebury library doesn't yet have a name, word is that it will be open starting at 8 a.m. on Monday. Summer hours will be 8-8 on weekdays next week; the schedule beyond next Friday hasn't yet been determined. Complete access to the collections is about a week away, but in the meantime, the dedicated Library staff should be able to help you locate any materials you need posthaste.

No need to venture downtown if you already know what you want – the Davison library staff is eager to help Bread Loafers with the new email procedure embedded in MIDCAT, Middlebury's online library catalog. Book requests normally turn around in 24 hours, and early morning requests can arrive with the afternoon courier.

Brown Focuses on Students He's Going to Shoot

While he's a bit put out by some of the more high-maintenance students who keep badgering the Front Desk staff about their every little need, rest assured that Ed Brown has no criminal intentions (yet, that is; the summer is young). He has, however, announced next week's schedule for school photos. The All-School photo will take place before lunch on Tuesday, with the faculty and staff photos after the meal. Seniors should congregate on the Inn porch before lunch on Wednesday for their group snapshot.

Want a Room of Your Own?

If you need to reserve a classroom for any time outside the normal academic day, signup sheets are located on the bulletin board outside the Office. The master calendar next to it, however, has been charmed by Hermione Granger wannabe Emily Bartels; anyone other than the mighty Elaine who attempts to alter it will find themselves incapable of utilizing polysyllabic words on any of their summer's papers.

Leak House

Looks like the Women of Bloomfield nodded off during John McCardell's opening night address, as they've neglected to follow Conrad Hilton's dying reminder to leave the shower curtain on the *inside* of the tub. Those below their bathroom are not amused when water leaks through the ceiling.

Students of Little'll Adore It

Arthur Little's Shakespeare in Popular Film class can view *Chimes at Midnight* at 7:30 this Sunday in Barn 2.

Pair Didn't Have Hard Time Spotting Answer

Perhaps having noted that the headline "All At Once You'll See a Crowd, a Host" was taken more or less directly from "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud," Eugene Campbell and Team Kaplan/Pederson quickly identified William Wordsworth as the unproductive poet laureate of yesterday's Puzzler.

Several different authors' names or works appear in today's headlines, but only one author's works lurk in multiple headlines. He's the right answer to today's question.

Top Ten Ideas Gold, Precious (Every One)

Bravo to the dorms and other constituencies who bravely threw themselves into the fray right away, submitting their ideas for...

Top T(w)en(ty-one)

Signs You've Chosen the Wrong Class

21. Bloomsbury? I thought they said *Doonesbury*!! (NBB)
20. Even the syllabus is incomprehensible. (FS)
19. Your professor asks everyone to get out their graphing calculators. (WOB, LOL)
18. John Elder *swears* that he thought this was the way back to campus. (WS)
17. Professor walks in, breaks off the neck of a bottle of vodka, and says, "Class is over when the bottle is empty." (COBE)
16. "Thinking About Narrative" also seems to require writing. (MOA)
15. Jim Maddox is auditing "just for the challenge." (BB)
14. Assigned your own cadaver on first day. (WS)
13. Course grade exclusively based on modern dance interpretation of *Middlemarch*. (COBE)
12. On the syllabus, an entire week is devoted to reading *Ellen*. (LOL)
11. Your classmates just don't understand your comparison between the epic homecoming of Odysseus and Nomar's return to the batting lineup. (NBB)
10. You've considered titling your paper "Biblical Allusions in Virgil and Ovid." (NBB)
9. Sarah Jessica Parker isn't teaching "Sex and the City." (MOA)
8. You open your mouth to offer an intelligent idea to class discussion, but instead, some unknown voice squeaks inane verbiage that no one understands but you. Maybe. (WOC)
7. Everyone in the class casually refers to Derrida and Lacan as "old friends." (LOL)
6. Everybody is speaking in tongues, and the "professor" is sacrificing a chicken. (WOB)
5. Ed Brown's asleep in the seat next to you. (FD)
4. Professor Snape just seems to have it in for you, somehow... (BB, FS)
3. "Pastoral Tradition" brings back repressed memories of your days as an altar boy. (MOA)
2. The first thing you are asked to do in Acting Workshop is take off your pants. (WOB)
1. Nobody laughs. (WOC)

Early standings:	North Branch Boys (NBB)	3
	Ladies of Larch (LOL)	3
	Women of Bloomfield (WOB)	3
	Men of Annex (MOA)	3
	Children of Barn East (COBE)	2
	Fyler Sisters (FS)	2
	Waitstaff (WS)	2
	Birch Bunch (BB)	2
	Women of Cherry (WOC)	2
	Front Desk (FD)	1

If you don't see your group on this list, it's certainly not too late to put yourself in the thick of the competition! Look for next week's Top Ten category in Monday's *Crumb*.

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 5

Monday, June 28, 2004

The Puzzler

T.S. Eliot once told F. Scott Fitzgerald that his work represented the first step forward for American literature since which author?

Schedule

4:45

Madrigalists
Barn

5:00

Yoga
Barn 2

7:30

Drew Lecture
Little Theater

Menu

Pork loin with spiced applesauce or wild mushroom and spinach sauté with red pepper coulis; rolls; pumpkin pie for dessert.

Weather

Today
PM showers.
71/52.

Tomorrow
PM showers.
75/55.

Wednesday
Mostly sunny!!
79/53.

Jean Howard to Deliver Tonight's Elizabeth Drew Memorial Lecture

The annual Elizabeth Drew Memorial Lecture will take place this evening at 7:30 in the Little Theater. Jean Howard, the William B. Ransford Professor of English at Columbia, will speak on "Sex and the Early Modern City: Staging the Bawdy Houses of Early Modern London" – a fitting topic, given the impending arrival on the Theater stage of Mistress Overdone's brothel in *Measure for Measure*. Professor Howard has received Guggenheim, NEH, Mellon, Folger and Newberry Library fellowships and sits on the editorial boards of *Shakespeare Quarterly*, *Shakespeare Studies*, and *Renaissance Drama*. Her books include *Shakespeare's Art of Orchestration*, *Shakespeare Reproduced: The Text in History and Ideology*, *The Stage and Struggle in Early Modern England*, *Engendering a Nation: A Feminist Account of Shakespeare's English Histories*, and *Marxist Shakespeares*; she is currently at work on a book entitled *Theater of a City*. She is General Editor of the Bedford Contextual Editions of Shakespeare and co-editor of *The Norton Shakespeare*. In 1999-2000 Professor Howard served as President of the Shakespeare Association of America. No less a figure than Emily Bartels confirms that Professor Howard is revered in the academic world as a sort of goddess; given her staggering accomplishments, the *Crumb* finds it entirely possible that she may levitate above the stage and/or summon Shakespeare's spirit from the ethereal beyond during tonight's lecture. We hope you will join us for this engaging presentation from an esteemed scholar.

I've Heard There're More Maids Singing

Whether you've sung in choirs for years or just attract the attention of fellow motorists with your red-light duets with Sheryl Crow, the Bread Loaf Madrigalists want you to add your voice to their chorus, which will meet for its first rehearsal this afternoon at 4:45 in the Barn. Men are especially encouraged to attend, as past years' groups have been predominantly female. There are no auditions, so don't be scared off if you fear that your voice might be little more than a Whitmanian barbaric yawp. This year's repertoire ranges from traditional folk and drinking songs to Gershwin, the Beatles, Alison Krauss, and (somehow) OutKast, with a few surprises thrown in as well and the infamous Bread Loaf Fight Song back by popular demand.

Duo Would Amaze, He Knew

Tomorrow night at 7:30 in the Barn, Bread Loaf welcomes back the incomparable Ellen McLaughlin and Rinde Eckert for an evening of phenomenal performances. Ellen, who has won critical acclaim for her performance as the Angel in the original production of *Angels in America* and for her adaptations of *Helen* and *The Persians*, will read from her work-in-progress *Oedipus*. Rinde, who won an Obie Award for the music of his Melville-inspired *And God Created Great Whales*, will be performing selections from *Highway Ulysses*, a modern version of the *Odyssey* that takes us from truck stops to prison cells to tattoo parlors.

Open Rehearsals

All evening *Measure for Measure* rehearsals are open to the public. If you love the play, or find the prospect of repartee between Michael Armstrong and Fred Sullivan irresistible, or just want to see which unfortunate Bread Loafer was cast in the rather thankless role of Ragozine (who appears only as a severed head), you'll find the rehearsals enjoyable and illuminating. The company asks only that you enter and leave as imperceptibly as possible.

Campus to Take Field Trip Tomorrow

You won't miss classes, and you don't need to have your permission slips signed, but you must still congregate in the field across 125 from the Inn before lunch tomorrow for this year's All-School Photograph. Faculty and staff should return after lunch for their group shot.

Starbucks Without the Bucks

Until this year, the Barn had gradually dwindled from the bustling hub of Bread Loaf to a social desert where nothing happens, nobody comes, nobody goes, it's awful. Now, however, it's what Starbucks in heaven must be like. Bustling. Wireless access. **Free** coffee and pastries in the mornings. Complimentary newspapers. Better lighting on the way. No self-important baristas, no angry gargle of the milk-steamer, no cloying soft jazz. Anything else that would help make the Barn a better place? Send your **serious** suggestions to the Director's Assistants...

Barn East is Already Lively Enough

...but feel free to disregard financial practicality and/or the laws of physics when devising your **Top Ten Ways to Really Live Up the Barn**. Annex, Larch, Bloomfield, Cherry, and Barn East got off to strong starts last week – will Gilmore or Ross or the Inn join them in the fray this week? Get your submissions to the *Crumb* by 11 on Friday.

Last Day for Inn Gratitude

Wednesday is John McCardell's last day as President of Middlebury, so today is the last day to put pond-related thanks on the card posted outside the Dining Hall.

Child of Charming, Not Awkward, Age

Kirsten Gruesz is looking for one or more babysitters to entertain her fourteen-month-old son on the occasional evening and weekend. You can contact her via campus mail or at ksgruesz@ucsc.edu.

Compost-Structural Criticism

Vermont's version of the green-eyed monster enforces recycling regulations, and after this weekend's meals his nostrils are flaring angrily. The kitchen staff reminds us that all food and paper should go in the compost bins, which have no liners; plastic cups, ice cream wrappers, and anything else not paper or food should go into trash cans, which will have plastic liners. We hope you'll agree that asking the Bread Loaf community to put their waste in the proper receptacles is far more reasonable than asking a dishwasher making \$6.75/hour to pick through the compost for rogue pieces of plastic.

Yoga-Goers Always Get Extensions

Starting today, yoga classes will be held in Barn 2 from 5-6 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays and from 3:30-5 p.m. on Fridays. Enthusiasts and newcomers are equally welcomed. The approach will vary from class to class depending on the experience and training of those involved. Those interested in leading a class can sign up on the Dining Hall bulletin board. Any questions? Drop Pam Newton a line.

Writers as Readers Should Read This, Write Her

Elizabeth Kriynovich is looking for fellow veterans of Wooster College's Writers as Readers program. If you're familiar with it, she'd love to hear from you.

Some Moose Sightings Are Bull

Robbie Harold '01 reports that she saw a bull moose, antlers still in velvet, grazing on the south side of 125 just past the Sucker Brook Trail Road on Monday night.

More remarkably, Jim Maddox told Elizabeth Drew Lecturer Jean Howard last night that they just *might* see a female moose in the bog beyond the Schoolhouse. They arrived at the spot, and lo and behold, there one was. Now, there can be no doubt of the extent of Jim's administrative reach, or of Bread Loaf's desire to extend every courtesy to its honored guests, but surely arranging for such "accidental" wildlife sightings to make visitors' stays here memorable entails some kind of improper diversion of funds and/or gross misuse of the "such other duties as may be required" clause in the Director's Assistants' contracts?

And, ever committed to reporting news the minute it breaks, the *Crumb* Bum is able to report that as he writes this very sentence, three surprisingly nonchalant foxes have ventured out of the woods by the Tea Cabin to nose around a bit.

Another Way Mistress Quickly Gets in Trouble

There have been several official reports that the Ripton radar trap is open for business. Remember that the speed limit abruptly drops to 30 as you enter town, making Middlebury-bound motorists easy prey for the radar gun.

Give Them a Ring? They'll None of It

Just because the Front Desk staff performs Herculean labors doesn't mean they're indefatigable. The Switchboard closes up shop from 11 p.m. to 8 a.m. daily. Remember that outsiders can dial your dorm directly by adding your four-digit extension to (802) 443-.

Headlines No Doubt an Easy Tool

Aurora Wilson, Kate Schmitt, Gene Campbell, Team Kaplan/Pederson, Mike Spillman, Robbie Harold, and Kelly & Kevin Dailey spotted one or more Dickens references in Friday's headlines and correctly guessed that it was he who cleverly concealed the secret door to his study with fancifully titled works. Plenty of Eliot in today's headlines, but he's not the answer to today's question. A non-Eliot headline holds the key...

The Crumb Goes Commercial

After seeing the success *Waiting for Guffman* star Corky St. Claire had selling *Remains of the Day* lunchboxes and *My Dinner with Andre* action figures, the *Crumb* has recognized the lucrative possibilities of a similar enterprise. Now available from our mail order catalog (operators standing by!):

#29230J. Thornfield Hall LEGO® Set.

\$42

This 718-piece set allows you to reconstruct Rochester's mansion from *Jane Eyre* in exquisite detail, from the great hall to Bertha's secret attic chamber. WARNING: Pieces not fireproof. Use by children under 5 may be hazardous. Bigamy not recommended.

#5801A: Emily Dickinson Dollhouse

\$165

This scale-model replica of Dickinson's Amherst home will delight the little recluse in your family! Impressive detail provides endless possibilities for make-believe: Dickinson watching the world pass by, Dickinson contemplating mortality, Dickinson remaining silent for hours on end... NOTE: Dickinson doll comes permanently affixed to the small writing desk in the cottage study. Doll can not be removed from room. Doll's clothes cannot be changed. Doll does not speak.

#10192A-J: "Little Literates" Talking Dolls \$17 ea/3 for \$45

Bring your favorite characters to life with these charming dolls, each of which speaks one of ten pre-recorded phrases at the pull of a string. Available models, with examples of phrases:

Molly Bloom: "yes I said yes I will Yes."

Old Gloucester: "AAIAAIIIGGHHH!!! My eyes!!!"

Prometheus: "AAIAAIIIGGHHH!!! My liver!!!"

"Tickle Me Lolita" **DISCONTINUED**

COMING SOON: Godot

#8014: Bob the Builder De-Construction Set

\$31

As Bob and his gang say, "Can we fix it? Yes we can, if we recognize that our utilization of the term 'fixed' denotes not that the object in question can perform its 'true' or 'intended' function, but that our imposition upon it of a particular definition of 'fixed' is the determinant of a system of culturally and ideologically coded signifiers!" Perfect for introducing your toddler to the joys of a metacognitive understanding of the destabilized nature of truth. No "tools" or "roads" or "machines" included in the set, but an ample supply of signs is provided.

#91784D: Parker Brothers' King Lear: The Board Game \$14.99

The perfect way to liven up your next party! Starting with the necessities of life - money, knights, eyesight, a daughter's love, clothing, sanity - players proceed around the Wheel of Fire, drawing Physical Torment and Mental Anguish cards that gradually strip them of their possessions. Try not to land on an Interactive Challenge square, or you just might have to endure an eye-gouging or a potentially suicidal plunge off the Dover cliffs! First player to slouch his or her way to a mercifully welcome death wins.

#858A: Moby-Dick Stuffed Plush Toy

\$6.50

Melville created his monumental mammal out of prose, but our finest craftsmen made this far more lovable version out of soft fabric and non-toxic polymer stuffing! Advanced microchip technology enables cuddly Moby to register the inflection of your child's voice and the tenderness of his or her caresses - and then respond to these emotional stimuli with uncanny realism!

WARNING: Best when given unconditional love. Toy has been known to respond vindictively when handled violently, abused, spurned, taunted, ignored, or talked about behind its flukes, or at the sight of persons with a particular and unusual physical handicap.

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 6

Tuesday, June 29, 2004

The Puzzler

Which author, whose first name was Adeline, published under her middle name?

Schedule

Right Now
All-School Photo
Inn Field

1:30
Faculty/Staff
Photo
Inn Porch

7:30
Ellen
McLaughlin and
Rinde Eckert
Theater

Menu

Beef blanchette with
pearl onions and
peas served over
crusty bread or tofu
meatballs over spiral
pasta with marinara;
baby corn and
carrots; Mike &
Dean's Surprise for
dessert.

Weather

Today
Rain, rain...
Isolated T-storms.
74/54.

Tomorrow
...go away...
Partly cloudy.
78/54.

Thursday
...come again some
other day...
T-storms, 84/59.

Ellen and Rinde Do the Greeks

Their work has been called "propulsive," "striking," "simple and dazzling," "stunningly beautiful," and "otherworldly" – and tonight, Ellen McLaughlin and Rinde Eckert will share their talents with Bread Loaf in a pair of performances starting at 7:30 in the Theater.

Ellen will be reading from her current project, an adaptation of *Oedipus* commissioned for the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis. She has won accolades for previous plays (including last year's New York production of *The Persians*) and for her stage performances (most notably as the Angel in the original production of Toni Kushner's *Angels in America*, although this writer holds her Glendower in the 1999 Bread Loaf production of the *Henriad* in equally high esteem). Rinde will be performing selections from his ongoing work *Highway Ulysses*, which transforms Odysseus into a war veteran hitchhiking across America towards his estranged son and sets his journey to music that transcends any single category – reviewers attempting to contextualize Rinde's work have mentioned Beckett, Schoenberg, Tom Waits, Kurt Weill, Brecht, and the Doors.

Rinde and Ellen's performances at Bread Loaf have been riveting and unforgettable; you'll marvel at their talent and cheer their surpassingly original work. We hope you'll join them this evening.

If You're Reading This Before Lunch...

...then you may be missing the All-School Photo. Better run across 125 and join the rest of Bread Loaf. Ed Brown has likely noticed your absence and is in the process of broadcasting to the entire community an amusing, but entirely baseless, story involving you, Robert Frost, and the Ripton Ladies' Association for the Preservation of Decency.

Senior Photo? Yes, If It's Fine Tomorrow

Assuming the weather is cooperative tomorrow before lunch, members of the Class of 2004 – momentarily forgetting their struggles to (choose one) read Middle English, understand "semiotics," or make theory profitable – should flash their toothiest grins for the Senior Photo. Meet on the Inn porch.

Swope Swoops In

Former *Crumb* Editor and current Dean of the New York Public Library Summer Seminars for English Teachers Sam Swope returns to campus this week. He'll be visiting several classes and will give an informal talk, open to the entire Bread Loaf community, at 5 on Thursday afternoon in Barn 1. There, he'll discuss the joys and challenges of using the rich, complex, rewarding, and frequently hilarious world of the classroom as material for writing.

Sam is an acclaimed writer of children's books, including the cult classic *The Araboolies of Liberty Street* and *Jack and the Seven Deadly Giants*, recently published to great acclaim. He's a regular contributor to *The New York Times Book Review* and *Teacher Magazine*. An excerpt from *I Am a Pencil*, a chronicle of his years teaching creative writing to immigrant children in Queens, just won the Bechtel Prize.

Sam is the Dean of the New York Public Library Summer Seminars for English Teachers. He is a graduate of Middlebury and has a master's degree from Oxford.

This Time, Waiters Have Tips for You

The *Crumb* continues to receive disturbing news that certain diners' treatment of the Waitstaff has been less than cordial. Take it from Emily Post: "Condescension, impatience, insensitivity and chronic lateness are disrespectful, inelegant and rude. Speaking harshly to waiters...is at the root of incivility." Have you forgotten that the person refilling your coffee and getting you seconds is a fellow Bread Loaf student and therefore entirely undeserving of such treatment? Your servers will do everything they can to provide you with what you want, but understanding, politeness, and gratitude still go a long way.

It is vital that students arrive on time for meals. Particularly guilty are those who just can't seem to get up early enough for breakfast. The Waitstaff works hard to clear the dining hall in time for their morning classes, and stragglers often times fail to take this into consideration when trying to grab a late bite. Only the Waitstaff is allowed in the dining hall directly before meals.

Also, the gradual disappearance from the Dining Hall of pitchers, coffee cups, salad bowls, and the like is generally attributed to miscreant Bread Loaf students and not to some instinctive early-summer kitchenware upstream spawning run. You can't take 'em with you.

Lastly, Gary is looking for people interested in earning some extra money by serving as substitute waiters or helping out at the Graduation Banquet.

Keep in mind that the knife Lea uses to clink a water glass before announcements has other potential uses, and that the campus coffee pipeline operates largely at their discretion. The enormities that doubtless lie within their powers to inflict would put Colonel Kurtz's nameless horrors to shame.

Drop In to Drop Out (or Add, or Switch)

Tomorrow (Wednesday) is the last day for students to change their schedules. If you've decided to add, drop, or change your course selections, you need to see Elaine right away.

If You're in a Low-Hydration Situation

You may have pondered the function of the curiously shaped fixture installed yesterday outside the Dining Hall; it's actually a water fountain dating from the early days of Bread Loaf. There's another rehabbed piece of original BL plumbing, which you may not have noticed, to the left of the door as you go into the Barn classrooms. So it's water, water, everywhere, and every drop's to drink.

Jim Voyages Out to Satellite Campuses; Bartels Plans to Make Waves

Jim Maddox leaves for Bread Loaf's New and Old Mexico campuses this Friday. In his absence, Associate Director Emily Bartels will assume responsibility for the Vermont campus and has assured the *Crumb* Bum that she has grand plans for her administration (which, if the past is any guide, involve a degree of hubris that would make Montgomery Burns blush).

New students who have not yet met with Jim or Emily and would like that conversation to be more about *literature* and less about *The Bachelorette*, *Big Brother IV*, or *Gilmore Girls* might want take Jim's travel plans into consideration.

Still No Signs of Hippo, Gator, Coelacanth

The quantity of quadrupeds encountered by Bread Loafers continues to grow daily. Steve Garnett reports sighting this summer's first coyote on 59 beyond Gilmore. Said coyote emerged from the woods about fifty yards in front of a jogging Steve, who wisely elected to slow his pace. The coyote appeared to contemplate the situation for a moment ("Predator? Snack? Extremely large other coyote? Moving tree?"), then trotted into the woods, and while Steve proceeded forward with not a little trepidation, the rest of his jog passed without incident, enabling him to return to tell the tale.

Inn Service Daze

Amid all the hubbub about the Barn's miraculous transformation into a wireless hot spot, the *Crumb* embarrassingly neglected to mention that the Inn lobby also has wireless access. If you prefer to work in the comfy rocking chairs in front of the Inn fireplace, near the Front Desk's stash of Vanilla Coke, or within earshot of Ed Brown's banter, the Inn lobby might be the place for you.

Crumb Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT NEEDED. Pair of experienced ranch hands seeks temporary position in new book. One w/strength of giant, suitable for lifting tractors, pulling oxcart, etc.; lack of emotional and expressive depth makes for better supporting character than Shakespearean tragic hero. Useful as symbol of prelapsarian innocence. Other capable laborer; range of emotion accessible via clipped, terse dialogue limited, but good possibilities for subtext. No amoral, apocalyptic Cormac McCarthy landscapes, please. Proximity to rabbits a plus.

Dame's Claim, "James," Tames Game

For the second straight day, Robbie Harold BreadNetted in the correct answer to the trivia question, supplying Henry James as the writer Eliot thought Fitzgerald had surpassed. Team Kaplan/Pederson, as usual, also had the right response. Identify Adeline today, and I'll add a line tomorrow to the *Crumb*, one with your name in it.

Determined Dorms Don't Dally Away Days

Having coasted to a wire-to-wire victory in last summer's Top Ten competition, the Men of Annex might have come out a bit complacent this summer. But now that the battle has been joined by Barn East, Bloomfield, and a number of other dorms bent on dethroning the Annex, the perennial champs have wisely eschewed preparing for class and drafting their first essays in favor of round-the-clock brainstorming sessions for the **Top Ten Ways to Really Liven Up the Barn**. Submissions are due on Friday, but get started earlier; shamed by last week's goose egg, the Guys of Gilmore have vowed to begin work on their list **before** Thursday night, when something always seems to come up for them.

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 7

Wednesday, June 30, 2004

The Puzzler

Who claimed to be unable to list his one hundred favorite books – “because I’ve only written five”?

Schedule

Senior Photo
12:30, Inn Porch

Yoga
5:00, Barn 2

Director’s Reception
5:00, West Lawn

Ultimate
7:00, Field

Menu

Chicken stir-fry with vegetables or white bean and artichoke gratin; wilted spinach and tomatoes; ice cream bars for dessert (a Wednesday tradition).

Weather

Today:
Partly cloudy,
77/54.

Tomorrow:
Scattered T-storms,
79/59.

Friday:
Partly cloudy,
79/55.

The Picture of Adoring & Great Class

For years to come, members of the Class of 2004 will look at their official Senior Class photo, which will be taken on the Inn porch just before lunch today, and remember all the happy times they had with their dear friends that summer...After lunch, the faculty will have their photo taken, and tomorrow it’s the Waitstaff’s turn.

Lawn Orders

Some of you were lucky enough to receive in your mailboxes little white envelopes containing invitations to today’s Director’s Reception, to be held from 5-6 on the West Lawn of the Inn. If you are one such lucky soul, please drop by, somewhat nattily attired, for cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, and genteel conversation with the faculty and some fellow students. Those of you who did not receive such an invitation and may be smarting at the perceived slight, fret not – invitations are dispensed to a randomly selected fifth of the student body each week, so yours will show up sooner or later.

Registration Information

Today’s the last day to change the courses for which you are officially registered. If you’ve decided that five courses is proving a bit taxing or want to add, drop, or change a course selection for any reason, you **must** see Elaine today.

I Do! I Like That Sam (*I Am a Pencil*)!

Teacher of teachers, children’s author, and former *Crumb* Editor Sam Swope will be talking about the manifold rewards of writing about teaching tomorrow at 5 in Barn 1. Sam’s new book, *I Am a Pencil*, is a chronicle of his experience teaching creative writing in Queens; an excerpt from that text was recently awarded the Bechtel Prize. Sam’s other recent work includes *Jack and the Seven Deadly Giants*, in which Jack must overcome imposing embodiments of the Seven Deadly Sins – and for which Sam had to overcome the problem of how exactly one depicts Lust in a children’s book. (Answer: The Wild Tickler.) We hope you’ll join Sam to hear more about his work.

Huston, We Have a Problem

Ordinarily, the *Crumb* gives its readers a summary of the plot of the upcoming Friday night film. This week, however, the byzantine complexities of John Huston’s directorial debut, *The Maltese Falcon*, make the *Crumb* Bum sound like an unprepared student attempting to give an oral report. “Um, it’s about a detective, and a falcon...which is a bird...and, like, everyone *wants* this falcon? And it gets pretty exciting...oh, yeah, I forgot – the falcon’s not, you know, a *real* bird? It’s one of those statue things? Anyway, it was really good.” Let’s just say that the acerbic dialogue, tossed off with enviable spontaneity by Dashiell Hammett’s hard-boiled characters, and the pile of double-crosses make for a gripping evening’s entertainment.

Maddox to Present *The Winners’ Tale*

At the conclusion of Thursday’s dinner, Jim Maddox will recognize the recipients of Bread Loaf’s many named scholarships, unveil the identity of the professor holding an endowed chair in Vermont this summer, and honor the memories of the friends of Bread Loaf for whom those scholarships and professorships are named. It’s important to know that as Bread Loaf awards no merit-based financial aid, tomorrow’s awards merely attach a title to the monetary grants Middlebury has already given to students demonstrating financial need.

Dance “Groovy” & “Tubular,” Not “Fly”

Shifting too abruptly from the nineteenth-century strains of the Square Dance to modern hip-hop could disorient Barn-goers on Saturday night, so this week’s dance will be an all-retro affair – four hours of 60’s, 70’s, and 80’s tunes. We ask that you keep with the spirit of the evening and not engage in any anachronistic activities – for example, doing the Hustle or Moonwalk is completely permissible, but mosh pits just don’t mesh well with the Bee Gees. Similarly, refrain from conversations about “the Web” or “Atkins” or “Lindsay Lohan.” Suggested topics: *Diff’rent Strokes*, Pong©, Molly Ringwald.

BLTN Announcement

Although the *Crumb* has tried, it’s impossible to render the mellow cadences of Dixie’s voice in prose. Just imagining her intone the reminder that all BLTN members will meet from 7-9 tomorrow in Barn 1, however, should be enough to convince you to attend.

BL T Announcement

Sunday is the deadline for submitting your design (in camera-ready form, using no more than two colors) for this year’s Bread Loaf T-shirt. The winner receives \$50 and the priceless and eternal fame generated by having his or her name appear in the *Crumb*.

Forecast Calls for Frost This Weekend

The refrain “You come too” from Frost’s “The Pasture” can perhaps be interpreted as a pleasant invitation into a poetically rendered sensibility, as an imperative declaration of the necessity of an intimate relationship with nature, or as an excuse to show up at Frost’s doorstep and gorge yourself on beanies and weenies. Dinner on Saturday will be a cookout at the Homer Noble Farm, Frost’s Ripton retreat; get there early to tour the Frost Cabin for a firsthand glimpse of his life (although prying up loose floorboards in search of undiscovered manuscripts is frowned upon). To get to the Homer Noble Farm, walk or drive to the Robert Frost Wayside just off of 125; turn right just before the Wayside and walk about half a mile up the dirt road.

Whine, Women, and Song

While it's true that women outnumber men in the Bread Loaf population, surely the ratio is not as drastic as Monday's Madrigalists rehearsal would indicate – nineteen women and two men (counting the director) showed up. (One imagines faint hope beginning to gleam in the eyes of the Men of Gilmore that this sampling is in fact representative of BL demographics.)

Needless to say, if there are men out there with an interest in singing, we'd love to see you at tomorrow's 4:45 rehearsal in the Barn. Any women who couldn't make Monday's rehearsal are, of course, also welcome to swell our ranks even further.

Chalk a Late Moose

Perhaps still visible on 125 is the faint chalk outline, antlers and all, of the moose struck and killed by a flatbed truck yesterday afternoon near the Frost Trail. (The driver, fortunately, escaped unhurt.) A sad event, to be sure, but particularly bitter news for the *Crumb* Bum. Less than an hour earlier, years of disenchantment gave way to exultation when he and Director's Assistant Jamie Perry ended a combined thirteen-plus mooseless summers by spotting what probably was the same glorious, yet doomed animal.

Having been thus swept from the heights of felicity to the depths of despair, the *Crumb* Bum's disappointment at never having seen a moose has been replaced by the fear that he bears some kind of Moose Curse that slays, Medusa-like, any moose who catches sight of *him*.

The all-wise Jim Maddox sagely counseled that this emotionally wrenching saga be converted into helpful advice, and here it is. The Frost Trail and the small Ripton cemetery are the two places moose and other wildlife are particularly likely to cross the road; given the unusually frequent sightings reported so far this summer, motorists should exercise extreme caution in these areas. Not all of us are lucky enough to drive flatbed trucks, and a Geo Metro would fare considerably less well in a moose impact.

Litter-ary Theory

Caroline Eisner reports the sighting of a Diet Coke can in the main run of the stream behind the Barn. At first, this seemed like a desperate publicity grab, Caroline's name not having appeared in the *Crumb* all that often and a Coke can the most exciting piece of wildlife she could claim to have spotted. It's actually a rather disturbing piece of news, however – for the only logical explanation is that some Bread Loafer – gasp! – simply *threw* it there. Most of us are environmental, but this person's just plain mental. The mind shudders at the thought of further, and potentially even worse, aberrations from the Bread Loaf norm, such as a quiet Annex porch. Please dispose of all waste properly.

Don't Rip Through Ripton

Posted halfway up the steep hill just around the sharp turn coming up from East Middlebury used to be a sign announcing what must have been the world's least-violated traffic regulation. "Speed Limit 50," the sign said, although the 1995 Men of Gilmore failed in their repeated (and probably hazardous) attempts to even **reach** 50 at that point in the road.

The signs announcing "Speed Limit 30" through Ripton, however, are easily missed and even more easily disobeyed. Take it easy heading through town, or else that quick trip for a pint at the Waybury might end up costing \$87.

Four Earn a Star Billing

Trivia contest newcomers Matt Micciche and Liz Bedell joined Robbie Harold and the unstoppable Team Pederson/Kaplan in guessing that the Adeline in question was Adeline Virginia Stephens Woolf. Also, don't forget to work on your **Top Ten Ways to Really Liven Up the Barn**; the deadline looms on Friday morning.

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 8

Thursday, July 1, 2004

The Puzzler

What author said she wrote her first novel because she wanted to read it?

Schedule

Faculty Photo
1:30, Inn Porch

Madrigalists
4:45, Barn

Sam Swope
5:00, Barn 1

Awards Dinner
6:00, Dining Hall

BLTN
7-9, Barn 1

Gilmore, 9:00

Menu

Fettuccini with pesto or megamanaki (Asian beef dish with cheese & scallions...Mike says 'You'll see!'); steamed broccoli; brown rice; dinner rolls; Portuguese sweet bread.

Weather

Today:
PM T-storms, but warmer! 81/60.

Tomorrow:
Partly cloudy.
77/53.

Weekend:
Sunny w/possible Sun. T-storms.
Highs around 80.

I Am A-Pencilin' In Sam Swope's Talk

Today's must-see feature attraction is the talk by Sam Swope from 5-6 in Barn 1. Sam just won the Bechtel Prize for an excerpt from *I Am a Pencil*, stories from his years teaching creative writing to immigrant children; he'll be discussing ways you can spin your memorable and enriching classroom experiences into memorable and enriching prose. Sam's also the author of several children's books (including *The Araboolies of Liberty Street* and the recently acclaimed *Jack and the Seven Deadly Giants*), the Dean of the New York Public Library Summer Seminars for English Teachers, and as a former *Crumb* Editor, a daily inspiration to the *Crumb* Bum that his stylistic eccentricities may yet find remunerative application in the outside world.

Awards Dinner Jazzes Up Evening

Tonight's dinner will be followed by the announcement of the 2004 recipients of Bread Loaf's named scholarships. Jim will have some brief remarks and then move on to fulsome praise of this year's honorees; all you need to do is show up and shower applause on the deserving winners.

BLTN: Busy Late To-Night?

Might be a busy day for BLTN members. First, it's off to classes. Then, they'll probably want to hear Sam Swope's talk at 5 in Barn 1. Ed Brown will take the BLTN photo just before their regular Thursday meeting from 7-9 in Barn 1, and of course they wouldn't even think of missing a Gilmore reading. An exhausting schedule, but then it's off to bed for a good night's...what's that? Homework? Reading? Papers? Class presentations? Oh, *those* things...

In Pursuit of XLence

Sunday is the last day to submit your design for this year's Bread Loaf T-shirt to the Front Desk. Perhaps you'll see your design become this summer's fashion statement; perhaps you can even convince one of your professors that your artistic rendering of the Bread Loaf experience also constitutes some sort of creative/autobiographical/reflective analytical work and should count as your final project instead of that 25-page paper you've been dreading.

Blue Is Tied Up for Senior Meeting

Seniors: Remember your very important class meeting tomorrow at 5 in the Blue Parlor. Ed Brown will take another Senior Class photo just before the meeting; at the end of the summer, you'll be able to purchase either yesterday's photo or tomorrow's. Any senior who has not turned in information about regalia and Commencement banquet/housing needs to do so immediately.

Our Version of "M.Litt." Ends Happily

There will be a meeting on Monday at 5 in the Blue Parlor for students enrolled in the M.Litt. program or interested in finding out more about it. Seniors who break into cold sweats at the thought of finding something *new* to do with their summers are particularly encouraged to attend.

Group to Resort to Song of Solo Man?

With a 19-2 ratio of women to men at their first rehearsal, it's beginning to look like *every* song in the Madrigalists' repertoire this summer will be a male solo, whether it was written that way or not. They'll be rehearsing this afternoon at 4:45 in the Barn, and newcomers are certain welcome. Perhaps the enticing offer of **two** Ben & Jerry's gift certificates at the close of the summer – twice the going Madrigalist pay rate – will lure some additional male voices¹ into the chorus?

¹Or possibly just hungry people.

Come Out, Out to Frost Picnic

Dinner will **not** be served in the Dining Hall on Saturday; instead, come to the annual Frost Picnic at the Homer Noble Farm (just a short ways down 125). If you're on the meal plan, you **must** pick up a ticket for the picnic at the Front Desk by breakfast on Saturday morning. Jen Welch will be leading tours of the Frost Cabin starting at 5:30; the Front Desk offers limited-capacity van shuttle service starting at 5:15.

Strange Things Brewing at Gilmore

In their weekly Dining Hall announcement, the Men of Gilmore advertised that tonight's reading will involve not just the usual fire, story, and beverages, but some sort of surprise as well. Further investigative reporting by the *Crumb* Bum garnered only the enigmatic information that the evening will involve "shenanigans," "ballyhoo,"¹ and/or "tomfoolery";² while extreme trepidation seems the sensible attitude with which to arm oneself tonight, here's hoping that your curiosity about precisely what they have up their collective sleeve³ will propel you up to their humble abode this evening at 9 for...whatever.

¹ or "Tally-ho." Didn't catch exactly what they said. If "Tally-ho," then mysterious special event is likely to be fox hunt.

² No one named Tom lives at Gilmore this year. Any foolery involving Tom Fitzgerald must be pre-approved by the fooler.

³ Inaccurate, clichéd, and generally poor choice of metaphor. So sue me.

Booze Gets Boos

Whether you're emerging from a Director's Reception, celebrating a birthday with your dorm mates, or seeing if imitating Faulkner's writing habits elevates your writing to his level,¹ you simply **cannot** bring alcohol into the Dining Hall. Ah, yes, you say, we *used* to be able to do this – and right you are. But those were the unsullied green days when the good people of Planet Earth never sued each other² and the Vermont State Liquor Board Beast hadn't yet sprouted fangs and starting spewing fire. Please confine your bibulous celebrations to private venues; we hope you'll understand the reason for insisting on a dry Dining Hall and abide by the letter of the law.

¹ Not recommended.

² Deliberate exaggeration for poetic effect. Please don't sue me for journalistic inaccuracy.

Skilled Writers Would Be Fun Riders

Radha is looking to hitch a ride with anyone going swimming at the Fitness Center – preferably in the mornings, but M/W/F afternoons are good too. Get in touch with her if you can help.

Also, anyone heading to Boston or New York this weekend should tell Conny (mailbox 2338). She's looking for a ride to either metropolis.

This Film is Falcon Awesome!

Sure, I know a thing or two about movies – good when you know there's gonna be a knock at your door and the person who walks through that door is the last person you want to see – and tomorrow night there's a decent show coming to town. *The Maltese Falcon*,¹ it's called. Bunch a' guys all goin' after some bird, giving each other the business, nothing personal. It happens – people get hurt in that line of work. I heard it started at nine. Some folks put their kids to bed at nine; some are waking up to go out on the town and make damn fools of themselves, end up at the bottom of a bottle. Me? Nine's when I do my best work. Maybe you'll go, maybe you won't – when all you've got to your name is a four-dollar suit and the memory of a girl in Calumet City you once knew, you don't care much what other people do with their days and nights. I'm not in it for the satisfaction, I'm in it for the cash. Which reminds me: It's free. That's right, free. Like the fourth cup of coffee you get at the all-night lunch because you know the dame who works the counter nights.

¹Not to be confused with the "Maltex Falcon," an avian sculpture constructed by the Waitstaff out of congealing breakfast cereal.

Retro Dance to Feature Lyric Poetry

Well, it's set way back in the middle of a field, just a funky old shack. Where everybody knows your name.¹ You can dance if you want to; you can leave your friends behind.² Come on, baby, let's do the Twist. Shake your groove thing. Shake your groove thing. Yeah, yeah. Get into the groove. We are a part of the Rhythm Nation. Can't get enough of your love, baby. See that girl? Watch that scene. Diggin' the Dancing Queen! (Her name is Rio, and she dances on the sand.) Don't...don't you want me? You know I don't believe you when you say that you don't need me! Baby, don't leave me this way! You're no good! You're no good! (Saturday night's all right for fighting.) You're no good! Baby, you're no good!

¹Theme from "Cheers" will not be played during Saturday's dance.

²But why would you? If your friends don't dance, then why are they your friends? How can anyone you deliberately "leave behind" be your friend? Ah, the semantic mysteries of *Men Without Hats*.

Wilde Guesses Pay Off

Team Pederson/Kaplan,¹ Matt Micciche, Robbie Harold, and Mike Spillman caught the distinctive hauteur of Oscar Wilde² in Wednesday's mystery quotation; belated credit also goes to Ruth Miller, who answered Tuesday's Puzzler correctly.³ Remember to turn in your **Top Ten Ways to Really Live Up the Barn** by 11 a.m. tomorrow, then check the *Crumb* to see how many of your ideas made the cut.

¹Had something to say about them, but then forgot what it was.

²Also the originator of the saying "He ain't all that and a bag of chips."

³but, naturally, before it appeared in Wednesday's *Crumb*.

Five Hundred Pounds: A Ruminant of One's Own

Yesterday. Dusk. Lake Pleiad. Jen Welch. The whisper of a breeze through the pines. Soft ripples on the surface of the water. And then: [Cue violin crescendo.] A moose. Large. Female.¹ Chocolate-brown. Lovely in its serenity. The sun sets. The moose ambles off. Twilight descends. A solitary tear. *Finis*.

¹Or "fenake," as I originally typed. Right hand discovered to be positioned one key too far to the left. Retype. *Veru sorru*.

Her Reign, It Reigneth Every Day

Jim Maddox leaves for New Mexico and Guadalajara tomorrow afternoon, thereupon ceding his local authority to Associate Director Emily Bartels. Last year, you may recall, Exalted Potentate Bartels immediately commanded construction of a 60-foot colossus in her own image to bestride 125 and strike terror into the hearts of arriving Bread Loaf students and passing motorists.¹

This year, however, Exalted Potentate Bartels has bigger plans. Please study the following schedule religiously, as absence from any campuswide event will be construed as insubordination.

¹Cancelled due to budget cuts and insufficient availability of planned building material, diamond-plutonium alloy.

Friday, 5:17 p.m.: Jim departs for Burlington airport.

5:18 p.m.: Coronation ceremony begins. Madrigalists sing official anthem, "O Emily, Immortal Queen" (tune of "America the Beautiful").

6-7:30 p.m.: Ring kissing (last names A-F).

8:00 p.m.: Half of student body searches forest for palm fronds suitable for cooling Exalted Potentate; half reports to kitchen to peel grapes, de-seed strawberries, and construct ice sculpture representation of closing scene of *As You Like It* for E.P.'s evening refreshment period.

9:15 p.m.: Aforementioned refreshment period. Menial student laborers (grape-servers, frond-wavers) heaped with scornful derision.

Saturday, 7:30-9 a.m.: Ring kissing (last names G-O).

9-9:02 a.m.: "The People's Time": audience with Bartels for airing of grievances, petitions for redress, etc.

9:03 a.m.: Summary rejection of all claims; belittlement of claimants.

9:30-11: Pose for oil painting (flaming sword aloft, foot crushing serpent, celestial rays of light, etc.)

11-12: Receive embassy from various other sovereign powers (Meat Loaf School of Math, Language Schools, etc.).

11:47 a.m.: Curtly dismiss ambassador from School of Portuguese (insufficiently bejeweled scepter presented as gift).

11:52 a.m.: After consultation with cronies and yes-men, declare war on School of Portuguese.

11:53 a.m.: Summon Royal Atlas to find out where Portugal is located.

12:00-12:45 p.m.: Ring kissing (last names P-Z).

1:07 p.m.: Call to arms. Regiments of Bread Loaf students wielding whatever weapons could be scrounged on such short notice (Dining Hall forks, biting wit, pens erroneously believed to be mightier than swords, copies of *The Riverside Chaucer*) begin fateful descent down Mountain to engage opposing forces...



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You Crumb Too

Special Frost Picnic Edition

Volume 85, Number 9

Friday, July 2, 2004

The Puzzler

What kind of soda was said to be Robert Frost's favorite?

Schedule

Today
Yoga 3:30, Barn 2

Senior Meeting
5:00, Blue Parlor

Maltese Falcon
9:00, Barn

Tomorrow
Frost Picnic, 6:00

Retro Dance, 9-1

Sunday
Blue Parlor, 7:30

Dinner Menu

Trout w/lemon
beurre blanc or
marinated tofu
w/cumin cream;
savory pumpkin
pancakes w/seasonal
vegetables; mashed
potatoes; green
beans; dessert's a
surprise.

Weather

Today:
Partly cloudy.
77/55.

Tomorrow:
Sun, sun, sun.
80/57.

Sunday:
Partly cloudy,
warmer. 87/66.

Acquainted with Tonight's Film

It's a little-known fact that Frost supplemented his income by drafting screenplays for Hollywood in the 30's and 40's – including tonight's film, *The Maltese Falcon*. Producers, however, found his tone and subject matter ill-suited for their hardened urban denizens, and script doctors had to be brought in to make the dialogue more consistent with the setting. Examples of the drastic emendations of Frost's proposed dialogue for Sam Spade:

Draft: Life is too much like a pathless wood, where one eye is weeping from a twig's having lashed it open.

Final: *When you're slapped, you'll take it and like it.*

Draft: I can repeat the words you were saying: 'Three foggy mornings and one rainy day will rot the best birch fence a man can build.' Think of it, talk like that at such a time!

Final: *People lose teeth talking like that. If you want to hang around, you'll be polite.*

Draft: Now let the night be dark for all of me. Let the night be too dark to see into the future. Let what will be, be.

Final: *I hope they don't hang you, precious, by that sweet neck. Yes, angel, I'm gonna send you over. The chances are you'll get off with life. That means if you're a good girl, you'll be out in 20 years. I'll be waiting for you. If they hang you, I'll always remember you.*

Saturday's Retro Dance Indebted to Frost

After Frost's death, his influence on younger writers continued to exert itself. Poets seeking fresh inspiration found an untapped vein of precious material by examining the manuscripts never before available to the public and finding in them a rich vein of precious material, such as the following early draft of "Nothing Gold Can Stay," made famous in revised form by Andy Gibb:

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
So dawn goes down to day,
Nothing gold can stay.
Ah, ah, ah, ah.
Staying alive. Staying alive.
Feel the cities breaking, and everybody's shaking,
But we're staying alive. Staying alive.

Come pay tribute to Frost and other poetic giants by jumping and jiving to the retro sounds of "Staying Alive" (Frost/Gibb), "Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go" (Donne/Michael), "Let's Get Physical" (C. Rossetti/Newton-John) and other "lyric poetry" from 9-1 tomorrow night in the Barn.

Frost Picnic: Out, Out- of This World

Tomorrow afternoon, take a break from reading, paper writing, or dropping stove-length sticks of wood and make your way to the Homer Noble Farm (with beautiful views of five mountain ranges, one behind the other, far into Vermont) for the Frost Picnic. The Front Desk van will be shuttling people down starting at 5:15, Jen Welch will lead tours of the Frost Cabin starting at 5:30, and at 6, someone (not your sister, but quite possibly someone in an apron) will tell you "Supper." Now why you would be carrying a buzz-saw at this point I can't imagine, but if you are, please – for the love of *God* – put it down *carefully*, and head, preferably still with both your hands, to the buffet line. Eat to your heart's content. Watch the food disappear. Little – less – nothing! And that'll end it. And then you, because you are not done with your work, can turn to your affairs.

Note: The Frost Picnic is open to everyone, but you **must** have picked up a ticket at the Front Desk by breakfast tomorrow to attend.

Frost Put Litter in Its Place

He'd say, "You're just trash – *trash*, you hear me? You're nothing but garbage, and you'll *always* be garbage!" Please do as Frost did and do a better job of putting Dining Hall litter in its place this weekend. Remember that all food and paper go in the compost bucket (no garbage bag); plastics go into the trash can (plastic liner).

Design Governs in Things S, M, L, XL

What will you choose for your Bread Loaf T-shirt design? A snow-drop spider, a flower like a froth, dead wings carried like a paper kite? I hope not, because none of those really seem to have anything to do with Bread Loaf. Whatever you choose, you'll need to turn in your design at the Front Desk by Sunday's contest deadline.

Seniors' Goals: Meeting and Passing

Seniors are reminded of their important meeting in the Blue Parlor this afternoon at 5; Ed Brown will arrive shortly before that hour to take another Senior Class photograph. Those interested in disproving Frost's claim that "knowing how way leads on to way / I doubted if I should ever come back" by returning to Bread Loaf to pursue an M.Litt. degree should return to the Blue Parlor at 5 on Monday for an informational meeting with Emily Bartels.

Muldoon Means You're In for a Treat

Having already, uh, "established territorial rights" over the Homer Noble Farm, Paul Muldoon will proceed to make the Barn his own on Monday night. With his witty, incisive, and acrobatic poetry, that is. Our current Robert Frost Professor and resident Pulitzer Prize winner will be reading from work both familiar and new on Monday at 7:30 in the Barn.

Poet of Ripton Absent from *Beard of Avon*

The Acting Ensemble's staged reading of Amy Freed's *The Beard of Avon* (to take place next Wednesday at 7:30) appears to have nothing whatsoever to do with Robert Frost. It's a rollicking farce that proposes some startling and riotously amusing explanations of perhaps the greatest literary mystery of all: how on earth did Shakespeare become, well, *Shakespeare*? But that doesn't give the *Crumb Bum* any good way to make this article consistent with the rest of this issue. To the best of his biographers' knowledge, Frost never sported a beard, nor is there any evidence that he used Avon skin care products. *Must think...*

Bookstore Stocks Other Authors Besides Frost

Ed Brown reports that copies of *The Tempest: Shakespeare in Performance* are in for students in Alan MacVey's class. The Bookstore also stocks a variety of Sam Swope titles, and Sam has graciously agreed to autograph copies for anyone who's interested. You can simply leave your copies at the Front Desk, where he will find them, sign them, and leave them for you to claim again.

Little Films Contain Little Frost

Arthur Little's (who never met Frost) Shakespeare in Popular Film class (which reads no Frost) will watch *Richard III* (not one of the ten Shakespeare plays in which the word "frost" appears) on Monday at 7:30 in Barn 2, followed by *Looking for Richard* (not Robert) the next night (same time, same place).

Prestigious Prizes A-Plenty

Robert Frost won four Pulitzer Prizes, a Congressional Medal of Honor, and the Gold Medal of the National Institute for Arts and Letters among countless other honors, but he's had enough praise to last him for a while. Instead, let's once again applaud the winners of named scholarships, announced by Jim Maddox at last night's dinner:

Reginald and Juanita Cook Scholarship	Martha Perkins
Mina Shaughnessy Scholarship	Jim Bishop
Beth Cubeta Scholarship	Pam Newton
Margaret Fielders Scholarship	Kimberly Benson
Brent Goeres Scholarship	Kate Schmitt
Larry Holland Scholarships	Lisa Baker, John Wihbey
Kathleen Downey Scholarship	Anne Keller
John M. Kirk, Jr. Scholarship	Brian Kosnik
Pauline Decker Scholarship	Tarim Chung
Hazel Haseltine Adkins Scholarship	Roberta Torrens
Chase Byron Scholarship	Jill Hindle
Mark Doty Wilson Scholarship	Emily Gleason
Charlie Orr Scholarship	Lea Kelley
Raymond Waldron Scholarship	Sarah Phipps
Dulcie Scott Scholarship	Margaret Droge
Rocky Gooch Scholarship	Radha Rao
Wylie and Lucy Sypher Scholarship	Tom Fitzgerald

Robert Frost Chair

Paul Muldoon

Whose Words These Are, They Think They Know

Ruth Miller, Robbie Harold, Joy MacVey, Matt Micciche, Team Pederson/Kaplan, Christie Beveridge, Mike Spillman, and the mysterious Anonymous all correctly identified Toni Morrison as the author who claimed to write her first novel because she wanted to read it. Today, I'm afraid, you'll just have to guess at the answer, but the possibilities are limited. Hint: It's a **kind** of soda, not a **brand**. And it's **not** "C2," "Kiwi Mango Snapple," or "SpongeBob SquarePants Strawberry."

Man of Letters Meets Letterman

The closest Frost ever came to a Top Ten list was the following To-Do list from 1957 (not published in his collected works):

- Prune shrubs
- Milk, flour, soap, TV dinner (meat loaf?)
- Kitchen drain
- Seek poetic inspiration: Stream? Bluebird? North Star? Naughty limerick?
- Renew Harper's, Time, Muscle & Fitness
- Fend off admirers (Dog? fence? Shotgun?)
- Win another Pulitzer

He never explored the medium that has become so popular at Bread Loaf, and it's a shame that we'll never know his...

Top Ten (and Then Some) Ways to Really Liven Up the Barn

24. Bring back the livestock. (Fresh milk for the coffee.) (FD, FS, WOB, MOA, NBB)
23. Transport leftover desserts from Dining Hall for use in pie-eating contests. (FS)
22. Turn the Madrigalists into a hip-hop group. (PL)
21. Friday Night Smackdown, presenting Jumping Jim Maddox vs. Emily "The Anvil" Bartels. (MOA)
20. Renovation of Barn East as Deep Hall West. (DA)
19. *Dazed and Confused*, *Welcome Back Kotter*, and *Fast Times at Ridgemont High* on continuous loop to boost egos after humbling classroom experiences. (IM)
18. Replace floor boards with "Old Piney." (COBE)
17. Academic door prizes - the 100th student through the door earns a free A in the class of his or her choice. (FS)
16. Invite Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake to Saturday's dance; see what happens. (IM)
15. Reanimate body of Curly's wife from *Of Mice and Men*. (MOA)
14. Jim Maddox Bobble-Head Doll giveaway. (MOA)
13. Caffeine IV Drips. (WS)
12. Have Snoop-Dogg call the next square dance. (NBB)
11. Hay loft (available for quick "rolls"). (WOB)
10. Old McDonald invited to speak on "E, I, and O." (COBE)
9. Add ponies - and pony kegs. (WS)
8. Paris Hilton reading *Ulysses*. (GOG)
7. Expand petting zoo hours beyond Saturday nights. (MOA)
6. Give Ed Brown amphetamines and lock the door. (NBB)
5. Instead of "John's Pond" behind the barn, let's have "John's Hot Tub" inside. (WS)
- 4a. Relocate Barn next to Gilmore. (GOG)
- 4b. Rename the Barn "Annex." (FD)
3. John Fyler decrees: Tuesday night is Ladyes Nyght. (WS)
2. Bring in the Amish. (COBE)
1. Drop the "N." (COBE, WS)

Current standings:	Men of Annex (MOA)	8
	Waitstaff (WS)	7
	Children of Barn East (COBE)	6
	North Branch Boys (NBB)	6
	Women of Bloomfield (WOB)	5
	Fyler Sisters (FS)	5
	Ladies of Larch (LOL)	3
	Front Desk (FD)	3
	Birch Bunch (BB)	2
	Women of Cherry (WOC)	2
	Inn Mates (IM)	2
	Guys of Gilmore (GOG)	2
	Phoebe Lewis (PL)	1
	Director's Assistants (DA)	1

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 10

Monday, July 5, 2004

The Puzzler

Which author, when asked by Clark Gable to name the five greatest writers then living, nominated Hemingway, Cather, Dos Passos, Mann... and himself?

Schedule

Madrigalists
4:45, Barn

M.Litt. Meeting
5:00, Blue Parlor

Yoga
5:00, Barn 2

Paul Muldoon
7:00, Barn

Richard III
7:30, Barn 2

Dinner Menu

Meat loaf w/
vegetables or
portabella
eggplant towers
with pasta and
homemade
marinara; frozen
yogurt pie for
dessert!

Weather

Today: Scattered
T-storms, 76/63.

Tomorrow: Partly
cloudy, 76/54.

Wednesday: Partly
cloudy, 83/61.

News Headlines from Just West of the Homer Noble Farm

A Monday greeting
That's quite a pleasant surprise.
Paul Muldoon's reading.

Treat your ears and eyes
To the man won – quite right –
The Pulitzer Prize.

Barn. Seven tonight.
Where you'll hear him unravel
Yarns through verse that might

Decide to travel:
Ireland, Jersey, Bread Loaf - through
Hay, Moy sand, gravel.

Lots of styles. A slew
Of topics. Even dafter –
Some rhymed haiku?

Then talk and laughter,
A beverage, some light eating
At Treman after.

Bartels to Enlighten August Gathering

In the benevolent spirit of her weeklong reign, Her Majesty Queen Emily has graciously agreed to dispense particles of her boundless wisdom to all students enrolled or interested in the M.Litt. program today at 5 in the Blue Parlor. You shall hear all about the program and have the opportunity to ask questions. Do not fail to herald her entrance by falling to your knees in the abject servitude she demands of her minions, lest she smite ye.

Other Concern Arose for Emily

Queen Emily also realizes that several first-year students have still not made appointments to chat with one of the Directors. This may be in part to the understandable terror with which new students might view a private audience with the Great and Powerful Bartels. She rushes to assure new students, however, that the Evil Queen is merely a façade useful for keeping her flunkies in a proper state of fearful deference, and that it is the Good Queen, all smiles and cookies and genuine interest, who awaits the privilege of making your acquaintance.

CD's Appreciated With Interest

Christian and Beth, this week's Barn Dance DJ's, are looking to supplement the well-meaning but somewhat meager Bread Loaf CD collection with the temporary donation of your favorite dance tunes. Leave your discs at the Front Desk, and they shall be safely returned to you after Saturday night.

John's Pond Response

Jim Maddox reports that Bread Loaf's giant John's Pond thank-you cards made it to John McCardell just before he stepped down from the Middlebury presidency, and that he and his wife Bonnie want to express their sincerest thanks for our gratitude.

Glorious Summer with Son of York?

Arthur Little's Shakespeare in Popular Film class will show *Richard III* tonight at 7:30 in Barn 2 and *Looking for Richard* tomorrow at the same time in the same place. Some suggestions for post-screening discussion topics:

- Who would you have to kill to gain absolute power? How would you avoid detection?
- What pick-up lines work best when trying to seduce the widow of a man you killed?
- If you're willing to trade your kingdom for a horse, shouldn't it be a *really good* horse, like Seabiscuit, or Mr. Ed?

Shakespeare Set Freed

The Acting Ensemble will present a staged reading of Amy Freed's raucous and hilarious farce *The Beard of Avon* this Wednesday at 7:30 in the Theater. Young Will Shakspeare is a Stratford farmer who hates the simple life – but then a troupe of traveling players comes through, and off to London Will goes. Edward de Vere, looking for a ghost writer, meets the young Shakspeare and decides to use him as his "beard." This works admirably for both parties for a while, but then Shakspeare, who's been studying the books De Vere kindly lends him, comes up with some ideas of his own about this whole drama thing...

Teachers of Verse Seek Pro's Advice...

If you're interested in teaching tennis lessons to teenage children (beginners and advanced players), get in touch with John Fyler or Suzanne Wofford. While this opportunity might seem especially appealing to students of either professor angling for favorable classroom treatment in lieu of pay, Jim and Emily will almost certainly red-flag any end-of-summer comment containing a phrase such as "Sebastian more than compensated for his quite staggering deficiencies as a textual critic with his exquisite analysis of the pros and cons of the serve-and-volley game."

...Then Net Wimbleloaf Triumphs

I sense dubious motives at work here...no doubt Professors Fyler and Wofford envision their children quickly becoming tennis whizzes, breezing through the Wimbleloaf draw until, as Fate would have it, whom do they meet in the final but the very student who, having read the previous article, volunteered to teach them the game? Rendered distractible by the resulting host of conflicting emotions and no doubt intimidated by the glowering courtside figure of the professor/parent, the coach wouldn't stand a chance. That shouldn't intimidate everyone else from signing up for Wimbleloaf, though; sheets have been posted outside the Dining Hall.

Sedgwick Scholar Speaks

Bread Loaf alum and current Salem State College professor Cindy Damon-Bach will be giving a presentation tomorrow at 5 in Barn 1 on Catharine Maria Sedgwick, whose writing anticipated and influenced the American Renaissance and addressed issues as varied as Native American rights, abolition, women's issues, religion, and the environment. Professor Damon-Bach will discuss ways to incorporate Sedgwick into the junior or senior high classroom and opportunities to publish your ideas and your students' work. Everyone is invited.

The Front Desk Staff Gets AA's

Batteries can present an environmental hazard when casually tossed in the trash. After you've exhausted your Duracells sharpening pencil after pencil in your electric sharpener or listening for hours on end to "Denis Leary reads *Leaves of Grass*" on your Discman, bring 'em to the Front Desk for proper disposal.

Third Time's the Charm

OK, the first time Ed tried to take the senior class photo, the camera gave everyone those red demon eyes. The second time, he forgot to remove the lens cap. So tomorrow after lunch, he'll give it another shot. All seniors should report to the Inn porch at 1:30 tomorrow for what Ed promises is the last time.

Bat News

And you thought *seeing* some cool animal was reason to alert the *Crumb* Bum. Dylan and Savannah Brown raised the bar on animal-encounter news this morning, however – bolstering their claim that a bat had fallen onto the floor of their house *with the actual bat itself*. A deceased specimen, lamentably, but certainly better than just a "Guess what I saw!" story.

Dylan and Savannah will tell you all about their adventure, but the *Crumb* Bum recommends that you just ask a lot of questions and not attempt any factual statements about bats, as Dylan and Savannah have acquired a depth of expertise on the subject comparable to Boswell's knowledge of Johnson and will most assuredly set you straight. The *Crumb* Bum learned this the hard way, postulating (logically, he thought) that they were fortunate it wasn't a *vampire* bat that might have latched onto one of them and dragged them across the room, only to be chastened for the ignorance that comment revealed regarding the vampire bat's habitat, towing ability, and dietetic predilections.

Van Plans

Today's Middlebury van run will leave at 1:45 as always, but it'll return slightly earlier than usual – by 3:30 – on account of a prior and unchangeable vehicular commitment. Most everything downtown's closed anyway, so this seems hardly an inconvenience.

Highly Unauthorized Biography

If you took a tour of the Frost Cabin last week, you have a leg up on this week's Top Ten competition. Who knows what secret details of the great man's life you discovered by peering into his coffee cans, riffling through his library in search of hitherto undiscovered marginalia, or discovering a false panel built into one of the walls? Any such momentous discoveries, or complete fabrications, can be broadcast to the community in Friday's list of the **Top Ten Little-Known Biographical Facts About Robert Frost**.

Lack of Pun Vanquished All

Apparently Bread Loaf prefers to operate via deductive logic than random shots in the dark, because only Team Pederson/Kaplan dared venture even a guess as to Robert Frost's favorite kind of soda. They were wrong (the correct answer was ginger ale), but for such pluck in the face of sheer befuddlement, they get their name in print once again.

The *Crumb*, learning its lesson from the paucity of responses, reverts today to its customary strategy. Several headlines are laced with puns hinting at the identity of today's mystery author; if you know who it is, let Jon Freeman know by 11 tomorrow morning in order to be recognized in tomorrow's *Crumb*.



It's SHAKESPEARE WEEK on the Jerry Springer Show!!!

MONDAY: My Father Died – And Then My Mother Married My *Uncle!*
TUESDAY: Say You Love Me More Than Anything. Or I'll Disinherit You!
WEDNESDAY: Twins So Identical, Even Their Lovers Can't Tell Them Apart!!
THURSDAY: I Can't Help It – I'm In Love With A Nun!!
FRIDAY: Leontes Thinks His Wife's Been Dead for Sixteen Years...
But Guess Who We've Got Backstage!!

Taped Daily in Barn 6 from 9-10 p.m. Crowd may be asked to join onstage brawls.

The CyberCrumb

Volume 85, Number 11

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

The Puzzler

Which American writer kept a sheet of paper under his pillow to write in the dark when he had insomnia?

Schedule

Senior Picture

1:30, Inn Porch

Sedgwick Presentation

5:00, Barn 1

Looking for Richard

7:30, Barn 1

Sexual Orientation Discussion Group

9:00, Blue Parlor

Dinner Menu

Beef stir-fry with bok choy, leeks, and brown rice - or tempe, seitan, and tofu stir-fry with brown rice. Blueberry crumb cake for dessert.

Weather

Today: Partly cloudy, 75/64.

Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, 82/63.

Wednesday: Isolated T-storms, 77/56.

***Beard* A Hit, A Very Palpable Hit**

The Acting Ensemble will present a staged reading of Amy Freed's *The Beard of Avon* tomorrow evening at 7:30 in the Theater. Taking the various conspiracy theories and authorship debates and "putting them in a blender" (SF Weekly), *The Beard* imagines the young Will Shakspeare, a man dissatisfied with the confines of a rural existence and determined to hit the big time on the London stage. This, as you know, he does...except in Freed's version, his first successes are bit roles in memorable works such as *Scurvy Wives* and *Roister Doister*. (Sadly, no mention of *Northward Ho*.) Young Shakspeare is discovered by Edward de Vere, a nobleman with grand literary ambitions but utterly

lacking the technical prowess to realize them. What happens next, you'll have to see for yourself. The *Beard* is the perfect antidote to midsummer tension – be sure to arrive early tomorrow night to grab a good seat.

Sedgwick Surprisingly Significant

Bread Loaf alum and current Salem State College professor Lucinda Damon-Bach returns to campus today to give a presentation on the 19th-century American writer Catharine Maria Sedgwick this afternoon at 5 in Barn 1. If you teach American literature and are interested in balancing your curriculum with women writers, you'll find today's presentation interesting. Professor Damon-Bach will explain how Sedgwick anticipated and influenced writers from Emerson to Hawthorne to Stowe and offer ideas and information about ways to incorporate Sedgwick's work into the classroom.

Seniors Need to Focus

All right, seniors. We couldn't get all of you together either of the first two times Ed tried to take your class photo. We'll try again today after lunch on the Inn porch, but if the attendance problems recur, Ed warns that he'll just use Photoshop to cobble something bizarre together out of the three photo sessions – like pasting in twelve Molly Williamses, or giving everybody Gary Montano's hair, or putting Jill Hindle's head on Charles Byrne's body.

Yoga Extends Its Reach

Fortunately, the frequency of yoga classes on campus is increasing in direct proportion to the recent rise in paper-related stress. There will be a class this Sunday afternoon from 3:30-5 in Barn 2; if there's enough interest this week, a Sunday class will be added to the regular M-W-F rotation. Any questions? Talk to Pam Newton.

Worship This Hire Power

A representative from Carney, Sandoe & Associates, America's leading placement agency for educators, will visit Bread Loaf on July 20th. Elaine has posted a schedule of appointments on the Office bulletin board; sign up soon if you're contemplating a job search in the academic world in the near future and would like to have Carney, Sandoe help publicize your candidacy to prospective employers.

Pacino Follows Hunch, Back to England

Al Pacino is on the hunt for Richard III. He must have gotten hold of one of the Really Bad Quartos, because he begins his search in Central Park, of all places, of which there is absolutely no mention in *Richard III*. Next, he heads to the Cloisters, which (to be kind) at least *looks* a little bit like some of the places described in the play...but has no one pointed out to Pacino that he's still looking in *New York*? (Perhaps *Scent of a Woman* was not the only film in which Pacino plays a blind man.) Well, yes, apparently someone has, because he eventually gets to Stratford-upon-Avon. Which means he's a bit warmer, but still...Finally, he looks in the Tower of London – but no Richard. (Perhaps this is because Pacino arrives in 1995, four hundred and ten years after Richard's death.) His proposal to try Notre Dame next is wisely rebuffed (wrong hunchback).

And where does Richard turn up in the end? Surprisingly enough, in Barn 1 at 7:30 tonight, when Arthur Little's Shakespeare in Popular Film class screens *Looking for Richard*, Pacino's quest to find places for Richard and for Shakespeare in modern America. You're invited to drop in, too, even if you're not in the class.

Get Set for Sets, Matched Up for Matches

Wimbledon is over until next June, and with most of the world's top players taking this week off to recuperate from the stress of a Grand Slam event, the Wimbleloaf field is wide open. Signup sheets have been posted outside the Dining Hall; sign up for singles play and find doubles partners by the end of the week, when the tournament draws will be posted. Players of all abilities are encouraged to participate.

BreadNet for Beginners

Tom McKenna reminds all first year BLTN fellows to sign up for BreadNet training with him and/or Janet Atkins. A sign-up sheet will be posted tomorrow on the door of the Inn Seminar Room. Experienced fellows are also encouraged to meet with Tom or Janet to discuss their upcoming plans.

Coffeehouse Warming Up

Interest in the Coffeehouse has been brisk, with almost a dozen acts already signed up outside the Dining Hall – but there's still plenty of time for you to perfect your sword-swallowing skills, ventriloquist act, or oboe rendition of Britney Spears' "Toxic" in time for the July 21st show. Wondering whether you're talented enough to participate? As those who saw last year's show will attest, "Jimmy Carter Says Yes!"

Conference Conflicts

Beginning Wednesday, July 7, the upstairs conference room in the library will be frequently used for BreadNet workshops and meetings. A schedule of workshop and meeting times will be posted on each door of the room. Please expect some conversation during those times. Please also understand that the four computers in that room are intended for use by members of the Writing to Make a Difference class and for BreadNet training. You're welcome to use the computers when they are not in use, but do refer to the schedule, and defer to these students.

Quote Conquered: Massive # of Right Answers

Christie Beveridge, Team Pederson/Kaplan, Chris Hutchison, Gene Campbell, Joy MacVey, Sean McCarthy, and Tom Fitzgerald all correctly guessed that William Faulkner was the answer to yesterday's question. If you think you know today's sleepless scribe, tell Jon Freeman by 11 a.m. tomorrow so you too can see your name in print in that day's *Crumb*.

Thorough Searches Yield Clues

The relics of the Frost Cabin now include Tour Guide Jen Welch's keys, mistakenly locked within the cabin after Saturday's picnic. Years from now, another tour guide will direct the attention of the rapt Bread Loaf students to the no-doubt authentic key ring. They'll marvel at the intimate knowledge that Frost drove a VW Jetta and was a member

of the Video Wizard© Platinum Select Club – as legend once again quietly evolves into incontrovertible fact.

No doubt you've discovered some other inexplicably overlooked details of the poet's life; please share them with all of Bread Loaf in Friday's list of the **Top Ten Little-Known Biographical Facts About Robert Frost**. Be forewarned that the *Crumb* Bum will strenuously check all submissions against the voluminous body of Frost biography and criticism. Any piece of information found to have a basis in fact will be summarily and irrevocably rendered ineligible for inclusion in this week's list.

Today's BLTV Listings

- 1:00 ELLEN.** Today: Old Piney in quarrel with neighboring hemlock. Ellen offers sage advice.
- 1:30 TRL POETRY HOUR.** Requests taken live from audience's phone calls and e-mails. Will "We Real Cool" stay at #1 or be displaced by the fast rising "When my mistress swears that she is made of truth"?
- 2:30 MIGHTY ORPHAN POWER RANGERS.** Dickensian juvenile heroes battle Lord Zed.
- 3:00 EXTREME MAKEOVERS.** The Extreme Team turns *Frankenstein* into a Western.
- 3:30 WHO WANTS TO MARRY MY DAUGHTER?** *The Taming of the Shrew* comes to reality TV! Baptista wins \$1 million if he finds Kate a husband before Gremio, Hortensio, or Lucentio violates his other child!
- 4:30 WIDE WORLD OF SPORTS: 1ST ANNUAL BREAD LOAF OUTHOUSE RACES.**
- 5:00 WEAKEST LINK.** Least insightful student gets jettisoned from Michael Armstrong's class.
- 5:30 IRON CHEF D'OEUVRE.** Guest author Anne Tyler takes on Cormac McCarthy. Contestants have one hour to write short story utilizing "secret plot ingredient." Tonight: "Lecherous Alcoholic Uncle."
- 6:30 EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND CARVER.** Discussion of "Cathedral."
- 7:00 FEAR FACTOR BREAD LOAF.** English graduate students confront physical and psychological challenges. Tonight: moose roping, black-fly pie, reading all of *Ellen*.
- 8:00 SURVIVOR: NOBEL.** This week: Shaw Tribe (Derek Walcott, Kenzaburo Oe, Nadine Gordimer) fends off wild boar; infighting among Mann Tribe (Dario Fo, Jose Saramago, J. M. Coetzee, Toni Morrison).
- 9:00 GILMORE GUYS.** Steve and John get into a fight over proper fire-building technique.
- 9:30 COPS.** Ripton police deal w/caffeine junkies, noisy porches, drinking outside roped area.
- 10:00 LAW & ORDER: PLAGIARISM UNIT.** The DA attempts to shut down sparknotes.com – but corporate lobbyists have a powerful Congressman working to thwart the office's investigation.
- 11:00 BLTV EVENING NEWS.** Tonight's broadcast in the style of e.e. cummings.
- 11:30 CROSSFIRE.** Tonight's topic: "Moby-Dick: Inscrutable Symbolic Vessel or Big Ol' Fish?"
- 12:00 WORLD'S STRONGEST MAN.** Athletes try to lift collected works of Joyce Carol Oates.
- 12:30 INFOMERCIAL.** "Ronco EZ-Action Combination GrammarChecker/Juicer."

Choose Your Own Crumb

Volume 85, Number 12

Wednesday, July 7, 2004

How to Play

Start at #1 and make wise choices from that point. Can you escape an unhappy ending?

The Puzzler

Which is the only Shakespearean comedy that does not contain a song?

Schedule

Director's Reception
5:00, West Lawn

The Beard of Avon
7:30, Theatre

Dinner

Catfish with boiled potatoes or veggie four-cheese lasagna; vegetable medley; focaccia garlic bread; it's Wednesday, so ice cream for dessert.

Weather

Today:
Mostly sunny.
79/64.

Tomorrow:
Scattered T-storms,
75/59.

Friday:
Isolated T-storms,
75/54.

#1: THE DINING HALL

The conversation at your lunch table, always intellectual, today focuses on "Who Wrote Shakespeare?"

If you decide that tonight's play holds the answer, go to #2.

If you decide that this month's copy of the Edward de Vere FanKlub NewzLetter might hold the answer, go to #3.

If you decide to ask your professors at today's Director's Reception, go to #4.

If you need expert advice and decide to consult Emily Bartels, go to #5.

#2: THE BEARD OF AVON

You settle into your seat in the Little Theatre by 7:30 and thoroughly enjoy tonight's staged reading of Amy Freed's *The Beard of Avon*, a playful version of the circumstances surrounding Shakespeare's ascension from simple country boy to literary deity.

If you stop by the Inn Seminar Room on your way to the Theater to sign up for BLTN BreadNet training, go to #6.

If you decide after viewing the play that you like geniuses and want to learn more about how to become one, go to #9.

If you think that the plays *Scurvy Wives* and *Roister Doister* sound like bands you could dance to on Saturday, go to #10.

If by some good fortune, the Beard of Avon script answers today's trivia question, go to #12.

#3: THE P.O. BOXES

No sign of your expected mail. But there is something else in there...

If it's an invitation to today's Director's Reception, go to #4.

If it's a letter from your boss saying that he or she has gotten wind of your highly immoral and almost certainly illegal "Pay For Your A" academic philosophy, go to #7.

#4: THE DIRECTOR'S RECEPTION

After grabbing some food and drink, you attempt to strike up a conversation with a faculty member.

If you say "Hi, Emily," and she seems to have no clue who you are, go to #5.

If you say "Hi, Dixie," but she seems to be hinting at something by sweetly responding, "Darling, why don't you drop by the office anymore?" go to #6.

If there don't seem to be any faculty around, and the only food you could find was a stale hot dog bun and some watermelon rinds, you've gone to the Frost Cabin instead of to the West Lawn. Go to #13.

#5: THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

You sign up to meet with Emily. You decide that it would be wise to placate her with a gift of an authentic First Folio.

If Emily says, "We are amused indeed" and offers to produce a queenly edict ordering the school of your choice to hire you at an outrageous salary, go to #7.

If Emily says, "We are not amused - that might do for a papal audience, but it won't cut it here," go to #15.

If Emily says, "I've been discussing your work with your professors, and we think a different class might be a bit more your speed," go to #17.

#6: BLTN MEETINGS

You're a first-year BLTN student, so you sign up for BreadNet training with Tom or Janet. You also remember that there's another full BLTN meeting tomorrow from 7-9 in Barn 1.

If you remember that as a first-year student, you also have to set up a time to meet with Emily or Jim, go to #5.

If you decide to put your newly acquired BreadNet expertise to immediate use, go to #8.

#7: CARNEY-SANDOE MEETINGS

You sign up outside the Office to meet with the rep from America's leading placement agency for educators.

If you claim to be able to teach music and need to do some quick brushing up on the subject, go to #9.

If you claim to be able to teach dance and need to do some quick brushing up on the subject, go to #10.

If the Carney-Sandoe rep offers you a teaching job with a starting salary of \$135,000, go to #25.

#8: APPLE CELLAR

You're confidently exploring BreadNet when you're invited to a Private Chat by someone you've been ogling all summer. After an initial exchange of pleasantries, the other party mentions, "You know, I'm really, really bored this weekend, and I don't want to be alone. Do you have any good ideas? I'm sure you do..."

If you say, "Want to come to see Amadeus with me on Friday? Music is the food of love, you know," go to #9.

If you say, "Let's go to the dance together, because I have a feeling you'd look good busting a move," go to #10.

If you say, "Gee, I'd love to, but I have a previous commitment," go to #16.

#9: THE BARN, FRIDAY NIGHT

You come to the Barn at 9 on Friday to watch F. Murray Abraham and Tom Hulce in Milos Forman's Academy-Award winning film *Amadeus*.

If you're disappointed because you thought the film contained Falco's Rock Me Amadeus, come back the next night. Go to #10.

If Mozart's story inspires you to premiere your own magnum opus in front of an appreciative crowd, go to #11.

If you decide to attempt to finish Mozart's Requiem out of devotion to his spirit, go to #19.

#10: THE BARN, SATURDAY NIGHT

Using plenty of CD's lent to them by helpful Bread Loaf students, Christian and Beth spin groovy tunes from 9 until 1. Fortified with Goldfish, pink lemonade, and the occasional amber beverage, you dance the night away.

If you decide to resuscitate the forgotten Bread Loaf tradition of the post-dance skinny dip, go to #22.

If you've heard wild stories about what goes on at the Blue Parlor after dances and decide to check it out, go to #23.

#11: THE COFFEEHOUSE

You sign up for the Coffeehouse outside the Dining Hall.

If you realize that you need to build some muscle if you're going to serve as the base of your inverted human pyramid, go to #14.
If the Coffeehouse makes you think, "Mmm...coffee... the Dining Hall's right here! I know I'm not allowed in, but no one will mind," go to #18.

#12: THE TRIVIA CONTEST

You think you know the answer to today's trivia question. You tell Jon Freeman, just like Andy Pederson told him that Thoreau was the insomniac author of yesterday's question.

If you are sure that the answer is Death of a Salesman, go to #21.

If you're sure you got it right and think to yourself, "I know I'm smart, so I bet I'm funny," you decide to think of Top Ten ideas. Go to #13.

#13: THE FROST CABIN

You're peering into the darkened Frost Cabin, trying to find a way in to do some research for this week's Top Ten Little-Known Biographical Facts About Robert Frost, when Paul Muldoon sidles up to you with a quizzical, somewhat perturbed expression on his face and asks what precisely you think you're doing.

If you say, "Yeah, I'm marking MY territory here, bub. Wanna make something of it?" go to #20.

If you fear Paul's wrath and hightail it into the woods in the hopes of finding Frost's secret trail from his cabin to Bread Loaf, go to #24.

#14: THE MIDDLEBURY GYM

Before you leave for the Gym, you offer Matt at the Front Desk a ride. He's looking to work out at the gym, but has no car.

If you decide to stop at the Frost Cabin and seek inspiration for this week's Top Ten list, go to #13.

#15: THE TREMAN BASEMENT

Surprisingly, the stocks left over from an old production of *King Lear* remain in perfect condition. Emily sentences you to six hours in them. You knew that Emily had a reputation for being really vindictive, but what you didn't know was that she also has a reputation for being really forgetful. Leo finds your moldering corpse during a routine heating systems check in mid-November. Try again.

#16: THE LAUNDRY HUT

This is your idea of "a previous commitment"? You should be *musling* your clothes (and someone else's), not folding them neatly. Anyone who can't recognize such a blatant come-on as the one in the Private Chat deserves a pathetic weekend. Try again.

#17: CROUTONS

The upside is that Emily was able to find an academic environment a little more suited to your critical thinking skills. The downsides are that the classroom furniture is really small, the teacher won't let you near the paste after you ate the last jar, and Miriam Freedman says that her Sweetie Bunny doesn't want to play with you. Try again.

#18: THE KITCHEN

Poking around for a to-go cup for your coffee, you feel a tap on your shoulder. You spin around to face Lea Kelley, and she's not smiling. She says, "You know that no students are allowed in the Kitchen after meals." You stammer an apology, but too late. Those salad tongs seem innocuous enough, but in trained hands they become implements of torture. That clicker at the door counts three things: students, guests, and victims. The third column now reads "001." Try again.

#19: A SICKBED.

There just seems to be something about this piece. Two weeks after you begin your attempt to complete Mozart's masterpiece, you notice you're not feeling so well. You're turning a sickly shade of green, and you have a sneaking suspicion that the man taking note-for-note dictation at the foot of your bed might not be the friend and admirer he's always claimed to be... Try again.

#20: PAUL MULDOON'S 2005 READING

At first, you're flattered when Paul mentions that he's written a poem about you. Then you realize that each of the 47 haiku suggests a way to ostracize, wound, or publicly humiliate you. Asher is five, so he can get away with telling Paul "I don't want to listen any more"; the same excuse, however, will not work for you. Your name is forever tarnished at Bread Loaf, so you spend next summer at the decidedly inferior master's program at the Bread Pudding School of Speling. Try again.

#21: THE LIBRARY

Your intellectual shortcomings are not so dire as to prevent you from realizing that you need to hunker down and do some *serious* reading. But first, you think, I'll just e-mail a few friends. Guess you forgot that typing on the downstairs computers is downright taboo. In a frighteningly accurate re-enactment of Poe's "The Cask of Amontillado," Chris Brady and the Library staff chain you to the wall behind a reserve shelf. Suzanne Wofford's 188 reserve texts occupy sufficient shelf space to wall you off entirely, and their collective density muffles your gradually diminishing screams. Try again.

#22: FUTURE SITE OF JOHN'S POND

Perhaps your nostalgia got the best of your practical knowledge. Perhaps you had one too many Copper Ales. Whatever the cause, it is only when you have reached the apex of your joyous, triumphant, buck-naked leap into the frigid water that you realize that John's Pond has not yet been constructed, and that your projected landing area, which by this time next summer will be under three feet of cool, refreshing water, is now a large rock. What four hungry crocodiles were doing on that rock will be the subject of much speculation at your memorial service and over the remaining weeks of the summer session. Try again.

#23: THE BLUE PARLOR

Turns out that the stories about what happens in the Blue Parlor after dances usually involve a *pair* of people...which means you'll either wonder why you're there all alone, or *really, really* inconvenience the two somewhat unkempt people you do encounter there. Try again.

#24: WOODS BEHIND FROST CABIN

You stumble through the undergrowth, realizing only after twenty minutes of struggle that even if the path existed at one point, it's surely been overgrown by now. You're hopelessly lost, but you take solace in Frost's reminder of the benefits of becoming "acquainted with the night." Unbeknownst to you, however, your pheromones mark you as a predator, and the only thing you become acquainted with is the business end of an angry bull moose. Try again.

#25: SOME TROPICAL ISLE.

This is too good to be true. You're getting paid this kind of money to work *here*? The school is right on the beach, the faculty lounge has a frozen margarita machine, and it's always 82 degrees with a slight breeze. Then you're informed that you're the varsity shark-wrestling coach. Saying that your first attempt to demonstrate proper technique to your squad didn't go well is putting it mildly. Finding your replacement, the school decides, is going to be tricky; they'd better up the offer to \$150,000. Finding your remains, however, is much easier, as for the next three days, more wash up with each high tide. Try again.

#26: BREAD LOAF'S SECRET ITALIAN VILLA

Did you notice Jim winking slyly at McCardell when he told the sob story on Opening Night about the so-called "evil treasurer" prohibiting Middlebury from acquiring the Italian villa? They've decided that you've chosen wisely enough to be let in on "their little secret." Jim's vacationing here ("trip to New Mexico" – that's a good one). You're waited on hand and foot. There's never a line at the salad bar. Illustrious authors stop by daily and ask you to autograph copies of their books. Your papers have "been taken care of." And now, you believe, it's time for your daily two-hour massage. Congratulations!

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 13

Thursday, July 8, 2004

The Puzzler

Which writer won four Pulitzer Prizes – the last 37 years after the first?

Schedule

Soccer
5:00, Field

BLTN
7-9, Barn 1

Gilmore
9:00

Dinner

Steak with balsamic glaze and mixed vegetables or orzo with tomato, Greek olives, capers, artichoke hearts, mushrooms, and firm tofu; peach cobbler for dessert.

Weather

Today:
Rain & thunder.
75/57.

Tomorrow:
Showers.
73/55.

Weekend:
Partly cloudy.
80/59.

I Never Sausage a Production!

Ah, yes, for the rest of the summer we'll reminisce about the many memorable moments in last night's reading of *The Beard of Avon* – Susanne Wofford's disconcertingly masochistic Elizabeth, Fred Sullivan's Milli Vanilli-esque flowing locks, Elizabeth Bunch's Fanfare for Kazoo – but the image that will forever be branded on the *Crumb* Bum's cranium is Brian McEleny's going to, um, great length to parade the God-piece underneath his cod-piece. Pity that the catchphrase "It's a *sausage!*" never appeared in any of Shakespeare's works; in the hopes of compensating for this lamentable deficit, today's *Crumb* is an All-Sausage Issue.

At Luncheon Meat Yearly Visitors

Today marks the arrival of this year's Andover Bread Loaf participants. ABL is a collaboration between the Bread Loaf School of English and Phillips Academy, an independent, residential high school. ABL offers summer workshops for urban teachers and for Lawrence MA student writers, leads the Lawrence chapter of Bread Loaf in the Cities, and supports Bread Loaf international conferences and BreadNet exchanges. Many ABL alumni have gone on to Bread Loaf to earn MAs or to continue the work they began at ABL; several are with us in Vermont this summer.

It's also been theorized that their midsummer arrival is carefully timed to coincide with the initial descent of the campus into paper-stress hell, their enthusiasm reminding you that while you may be struggling with work and deadlines, you're struggling in a remarkably beautiful and welcome setting. Please make them feel welcome during their stay here and bear in mind that the Dining Hall will be a mite more crowded for the next couple of days.

Tournament's Mustered Few Signups

Perhaps signups for Wimbleloaf have been slow because the lack of national TV coverage, prize money, or a politely clapping crowd diminishes interest; perhaps it's because people have forgotten the joys of relieving stress by smacking the living daylights out of a helpless yellow spheroid; perhaps everyone has been understandably overtaken by the fear of capitulating meekly to the juggernaut that is David Huddle. Whatever the reason, women's singles and men's doubles have only one entrant each, and women's doubles none at all. If this doesn't change fast, Wimbleloaf will be English in more than name – we'll be *crowning* champions instead of having the players duke it out on the court in the pure, democratic, competitive spirit that made America great.

Job-Seekers Have Frank Further Chat

About half of the July 20th appointment times with the representative from Carney, Sandoe & Associates have already been spoken for. If you're contemplating a job search in the near future, better sign up soon. The sheet is posted outside the Office.

Gilmore Home of Hairy Apes? Baloney!

It is all too common in this otherwise enlightened community to dismiss the Gentlemen of Gilmore (formerly "Guys" as residing in some kind of evolutionary backwater where the principles of Darwinian selection have not been administered with the same implacable pressure as they have in the rest of the so-called "civilized" world. This is a inviting myth, but one just as pernicious as that of the "Yeti," "Loch Ness Monster," or "Faculty Tequila Shooter Night," having absolutely no basis in fact. During your journey tonight to their habitat in the woods above Bread Loaf, be sure to take note of the unmistakable signs that the unrelenting force of evolution has indeed been at work. As late as 1992, the weekly bonfire had to be started by a fortuitous and incredibly accurate lightning strike; by 1997, anthropologists noted that rudimentary hand tools had appeared, greatly facilitating the efforts to hew wood to more manageable proportions, and in 2000 came the quantum leap of using the phone to order firewood instead of spending from Friday morn to Thursday noon scouring the local woods for kindling. Further developments – rapid acquisition of spoken language to announce their weekly gatherings to the outside community, an opposable thumb to operate the beverage-dispensing apparatus, and a system of legal reprisals for demonstrated injustices, the full weight of which will soon be brought to bear upon the *Crumb* Bum for the implications of this very article – enable the Gilmore Thursday evenings to continue to be one of Bread Loaf's most celebrated traditions. See you there.

Ham Remains Uncured

In Peter Shaffer and Milos Forman's acclaimed film *Amadeus*, Mozart is portrayed as the ludicrously talented and divinely inspired genius so often makes him out to be. That he's also a cackling, pompous, graceless, mercurial, scamp to the bitter end, however, complicates matters a bit for those who would employ, commission, and adore him. Forman, Shaffer, and F. Murray Abraham won Academy Awards for their work on this masterpiece, which will be shown on the Big Barn Screen at 9 tomorrow night.

They'll Ask If You Brat Your ID

Bread Loaf has never felt the need to employ a burly bouncer to screen the crowds seeking admission to the only nightlife in town (and I mean that quite literally), Saturday's Barn dance. Be aware, however, that you *will* need to bring an ID of some sort in order to obtain a magical bracelet from the Snack Bar. Once you put it on, it'll grant you your every wish – as long as that wish is for a beer. Then you're free to do the Mashed Potato, the Froog, the Swim, the Bony Maronie, or whatever dance it is that's all the rage with you young people today. Remember that Christian and Beth are still looking for CD's to expand their potential playlist, and a danceable beat and/or a thumping bass line can render irrelevant an otherwise staggering lack of musical skill (see Ice, Vanilla).

Muldoons Seek Sitter for Hot Dog

Paul Muldoon and Jean Korelitz are looking for a kind soul willing to watch over their dog Rosie during the long weekend. You can stay at the Homer Noble Farm while taking care of Rosie, or you can take her into your off-campus home, as Rosie is lovable, portable and adjusts easily to new locales. Talk to Paul or Jean if you think you can help.

Presence of Baby Moose Links Two Sightings

Steve Garnett caught sight of a baby moose (and perhaps more, although the details of his report sadly elude the *Crumb* Bum at the moment), and the Freedman/Blair clan reports having seen *two* babies and a grownup, thus reopening the furious debate regarding the correct plural form of "moose."

The Trick, He Knows, Is Good Weather for Soccer

The *Crumb* Bum hopes that the nasty morning weather will clear up, enabling there to be an informal soccer game this afternoon at 5 on the field for anyone interested. Regular games will continue each Thursday at 5.

Guessers DeLiverwurst Answers Yet

With a little research or a lucky guess, anyone could have gotten yesterday's trivia question right. The only Shakespearean comedy without a song is, in fact, *The Comedy of Errors* – but neither guess the *Crumb* received was correct. Let's see who can spot a lesser-known title by today's mystery author lurking in one of today's headlines.

Ingredients of Tomorrow's Wieners a Mystery

What kind of **Little-Known Biographical Facts About Robert Frost** the Top Ten competitors will come up with by 11 tomorrow remains a mystery; the possibilities for previously unpublicized illicit, immature, irreverent, immoral, and/or illegal Frostian behavior seem limitless. As with any question that invites you to sully the image of a noteworthy historical figure, this one presents a certain moral dilemma. Each of you must, in the most private corner of your soul, weigh the benefit of having your truly outstanding, truly libelous submissions published in tomorrow's *Crumb* against the distinct possibility (depending on your religious beliefs) that during your final conveyance to the afterlife, you'll encounter the ghost of Robert Frost waiting for you upon the threshold with a shotgun.

Oscar Wilde Meets Oscar Meyer

Really, now, I think Shakspeare's aesthetic objections to finding a place in any story for the immortal line "It's a *sausage!*" are a bit snooty and patronizing, don't you? Just imagine how many clichéd and tedious scenes could be filled with suspense, hilarity, and a distinctive smokehouse flavor with the addition of that one simple line:

from *The Odyssey*, Book XXIV

He sat then in the same chair by the pillar,
facing his silent wife, and said:

"Strange woman,

the immortals of Olympos made you hard,
harder than any. Who else in the world
would keep aloof as you do from her husband
if he returned to her from years of trouble,
cast on his own land in the twentieth year?
What if I said I bring to you a token,
a relic from the broken walls of Troy?

It's a sausage!!!"

Then Penelope spoke:

"Well, that changes things! Let's to the bed,
the olive tree, about which I had a good joke planned,
before you showed that splendid gift..."

from *The Merchant of Venice*

Portia: There, take it, Prince; and if my form lie there,
Then I am yours.

[He opens the golden casket.]

Morocco: O hell! What have we here?

It's a sausage!!! Around the which

There is a written scroll! I'll read the writing.

'All that glisters is not gold,

Surely you have heard that told.

So why'd you pick it? What a dork!

As your reward, you get this pork.'

Portia, adieu. This mortadella

Reminds me I'm a foolish fella. *Exit.*

from *The Wizard of Oz*

...and Dorothy said, "You're so kind, Mr. Wizard...but I don't think you've got anything in that bag for me."

The Wizard rummaged around, hemming and hawing, saying,
"Let's see now, there *must* be someth – Wait – just a minute – yes, I have it!"

"Oh!" Dorothy exclaimed. "Really?"

"What is it? What is it?" the Tin Man, Scarecrow, and Cowardly Lion all said, craning their necks to see.

"*It's a sausage!!!*" the Wizard proclaimed, holding it high enough for all to see. "And it's for *you*, Dorothy, to take with you as a keepsake – a memento of your time in Oz. Years from now, the people of Oz will remember you as their heroine, the one who bravely slew the Wicked Witch of the West. I will remember you as the little girl who showed me that I don't need to scare people to make them love me. And, because of this sausage, literary critics will remember you as...well, they'll have a lot to say about symbolism and a lot of other things I don't quite understand myself. But let's not waste time – you need to get back to Kansas!"

The Crub

Errata Edition

Volume 85, Number 14

Friday, July 9, 2004

The Puzzler

Which notable Shakespearean actor was originally slated to play Mozart in the film of *Amadeus*?

Schedule

Today
Amadeus
9:00, Barn

Tomorrow
Barn Dance
9:00-1:00, Barn

Sunday
Ultimate Frisbee
4:00, Field

Blue Parlor
7:00, where else?

Dinner

Fettuccini with clam sauce and cheese or riblets with black beans & white beans.

Weather

Today:
Showers,
72/55.

Saturday:
Partly cloudy,
76/54.

Sunday:
Mostly sunny,
80/56.

Much Ado about Everything

Before sending each day's edition to press, the *Crumb* Bum dutifully performs a thorough Spell- and Grammar-Check on his prose. Sadly, Microsoft Word has yet to come equipped with AuthentiCheck, Fictionary, or Sham-Blocker. As a result, the *Crumb* may have unwittingly suffered from what its detractors term "near-total distortion," but what my legal team advises me to call "a minor deficiency of truth." In a sincere effort to clear the air before once more contaminating it with salacious gossip and outright fraudulence, the *Crumb* offers the following retractions:

Eine Kleine Nachtmistake

Yesterday's summary of the plot of *Amadeus* was drawn from a website of dubious quality. The only correct information provided in yesterday's article was that it will be shown tonight at 9 in the Barn. *Amadeus* was not directed by Quentin Tarantino. That is not Tom Hulse's real hair. The title of the aria "Vedrai, carino" in *Don Giovanni* does not translate to "No, thank you, I'm allergic to shellfish." Mozart did not commit Salieri's commemorative march to memory after only one hearing; the scene took forty-three takes to get just right, by the end of which Mozart simply couldn't get it out of his head. Mozart did not die in a light saber battle. There is no basis in fact for the assertion that Mozart composed "Good Vibrations." To the best of his biographers' knowledge, Mozart never asked anyone to "Pimp My Ride."

Oops, I Did It Again

If there's anything you'd particularly like to hear during tomorrow night's Barn dance, send CD's to Christian Clarke or Beth Stanitski, this week's DJ's. It has come to the *Crumb*'s attention that a "wish list" of CD's, published earlier this week and attributed to Christian and Beth, was in fact an elaborate hoax. Christian and Beth emphatically insist that they do not need any of the following albums: Kenny G, *Breathless*; William Hung, *Inspiration*; 15 *Tuba Tunes*; *Gallivanting Around The Five-And-Dime and Other 1890's Classics*; *Air Supply's Greatest Hits*; *Emily Bartels Sings the Songs of Neil Diamond*; *Sopo-rific!: The Original Broadway Recording*; *Men of Gilmore*, *Songs of a Naughty Pine*; *It's A Sausage! and Other Polka Favorites*; *Songs of the Humpback Whale*; *Enya's Livelier Melodies*; 20 *Songs to Soothe the Potentially Insane*; *Party Time at the Elderhostel*; *Beastie Boys*, *Concerto for Woodwind Ensemble*.

I Messed Up Royally

Susanne Wofford has pointed out an inaccuracy in yesterday's description of the character of Queen Elizabeth in *The Beard of Avon*, whom the writer misleadingly called "disconcertingly masochistic." Professor Wofford points out that Elizabeth's behavior during the rehearsal of the early version of *The Taming of the Shrew* is "enthusiastically masochistic." The *Crumb* regrets the error.

Huddle Muddle

The *Crumb* entirely neglected to mention in yesterday's issue that David Huddle will be reading from his work on Monday at 7:30 in the Barn. Please note that the reading will not be appropriate for small children, as there will be nudity and strong language. One can only assume that David is referring to the content of his stories and does not intend to deliver a how-to lecture on strip poker or use the lectern as a soapbox from which to launch invective at any parties by whom he feels especially aggrieved. There will, David promises, be "very little violence" – unless, of course, that radical Anti-Huddite gang shows up to make trouble. *Just let them try...*

Trivial Oversight

The *Crumb* prides itself on its journalistic integrity and judicious appellations. It in no way meant to slight the persons who provided incorrect guesses to Wednesday's trivia question by describing them as "witless," "all kinds of dumb," "five short of a six-pack," "Darwin's exceptions," "wondering when the Fourth of July was this year," "having no lettuce in their salad," "a few logs short of a cabin," or "possessing nothing whatsoever inside their skulls."

Having said that, let's move on to yesterday's question. Fred Sullivan, Liz Bedell, Team Pederson/Kaplan, Stephen Berenson (who claims to have told Fred the answer), Christian Clarke, and Sean McCarthy shine amid the rest of you intellectual pipsqueaks by identifying Eugene O'Neill as the writer who won his last Pulitzer Prize thirty-seven years after his first. (Too bad he wasn't around to hear the news, though.)

Blue-per

This weekend's Blue Parlor readers are actually Shannon Hipp, Tena Cohen, Rebecca Freeman, and a fourth person who is identified on the signup sheet only as "CG." This is a change from the previously announced lineup of Alice Walker, Philip Roth, Annie Proulx, and John Keats. Ms. Walker regrettably had "a previous engagement," Mr. Roth claimed he "had to wash [his] hair," Ms. Proulx cited the insufficiently cool temperature of Hell, and Mr. Keats could not be reached for comment. These cancellations notwithstanding, the reading promises to provide impressive student work and a soothing break from your studies. Start time is 7:00 on Sunday. Hope to see you there.

Slipped Disc

The *Crumb* regrets not having previously trumpeted the fact that there's always an Ultimate Frisbee game at 4:00 on Sunday in addition to the regular Wednesday night tilt. Happily, this oversight did not prevent a group of players from showing up last week. It seems that serious disc-o-philes (not to be confused with disco-philes, who meet every Saturday night in the Barn) can hear at great distances the distinctive sound of a Frisbee being caught, whereupon they come running to join the fun.

Your Chance to Sound Off

In the "Miss Manners" column of Tuesday's *Crumb*, it was suggested that people who make excessive noise in hallways, on dorm phones, or on porches after 11 p.m. should be politely approached and engaged in a meaningful dialogue about the unintended consequences of their actions. In fact, said malefactors should simply be bludgeoned with copies of *The Norton Anthology of Poetry*, *Absalom! Absalom!*, or any other suitably substantial text. Please consider those around you and know when and where silence must reign (hallways, Davison, nighttime) and when and where you can let loose (Gilmore Thursdays, Mister Up's, Earthworm Manor Cuervo Cabana (faculty only)).

Almost Missed Mentioning Merriment

The *Crumb* was remiss in not mentioning previously that Middlebury's Festival on the Green begins tomorrow from 9-3 with the St. Stephen's Peasant Market (food, crafts, used books, antiques, kids' activities, auction). The first of a weeklong series of concerts takes place on Sunday night at 6, when the Gopher Broke Bluegrass Band takes the stage.

Cliffs Notes

Several erroneous claims were made in the *Crumb*'s recently published Guides to Great Literature. We apologize for the inconvenience and hope that the following corrections do not force Bread Loaf students to rework central points of their papers:

- A regrettable spelling error appeared in the chapter "Shakespeare's Use of the Heroin."
- *The Iceman Cometh* does not make a good grade-school play.
- "To Autumn" is not addressed to Keats' favorite exotic dancer.
- Same goes for Homer and "Rosy-fingered Dawn."
- *Emma* not actually about Southern California high school.
- Turns out George Eliot is a woman. (Hey, how were we supposed to know?)
- The scarlet letter was not an early Abercrombie logo.
- Ahab and the whale do not "kiss and make up."
- Please remove Edgar Allan Poe from the list of "Toddlers' Bedtime Favorites."
- We just guessed about what *To the Lighthouse* is really about.
- Iago may not always be completely honest.

My Favorite Mistakes

The *Crumb* wishes to apologize in advance to the following persons and/or organizations for the contents of today's Top Ten List: Robert Frost's descendants, lineal and literary; the Robert Frost Consortium; the Coalition of the Easily Offended; the actual inventors of the products mentioned in #7; the Vatican; that girl I never called back after saying I would after our first and only date in June 1996; the Addison County Prurience Patrol; David Letterman's overzealous lawyers; and the generally squeamish. Having gotten that out of the way, it's on to the

Top Ten (Or So) Little-Known Biographical Facts About Robert Frost

22. Ghostwriter of *Ellen*. (IM, FD)
21. &\$(@#ing *hated* Interpretive Trail idea. (MOA)
20. When low on inspiration, would strip down and roll in the fall leaves while reading Whitman. (MOA)
19. *Crumb* Bum is secret love child of Frost and Gertrude Stein. (IM, COBE)
18. Brother Jack had an even icier disposition. (DA, FD)
17. Superfluous third nipple. (MOA, LOL)
16. In 1928, hit .313 with 23 stolen bases for AA Vergennes of the Green Mountain League. (DA)
15. Self-hatred drove him to invent the self-defrosting refrigerator. (FS)
14. Maddox administration is keeping quiet the disappearances of 15 BL students during Frost Cabin tours. (NBB)
13. Homer Noble Farm set so far back from the road due to Frost's tendency to farm naked. (COBE)
12. Nicknamed "Motorhead" in high school. (IM)
11. Ghost-wrote lyrics to "You Ain't Nothin' But A Hound Dog." (MOA)
10. Update of his unpublished poem "Eliza, Who Among Us Released the Canines?" became a worldwide Top 40 smash hit. (DA)
9. Really only had a few yards to go before he slept. (FS)
8. Despite having it explained to him several times, *still* doesn't get the symbolism in "The Road Not Taken." (DA)
7. Also a prolific inventor: smiley face, waffle maker, those things that snow when you shake 'em. (DA)
6. Still alive in New Hampshire with J.D. Salinger and Elvis. (IM)
5. Turned to poetry only after failing to make a career out of wrestling as "Thesaurus Rex." (NBB, MOA)
4. Dark tone of many of Frost's poems was a direct result of hemorrhoids. (FD)
3. Grew his own "plants." (LOL)
2. Used to tell dates, "You have miles to go before you sleep." (COBE)
1. Swinging wasn't confined to birches. (FS, MOA)

Current standings:	Men of Annex (MOA)	14
	Children of Barn East (COBE)	9
	North Branch Boys (NBB)	8
	Fyler Sisters (FS)	8
	Waitstaff (WS)	7
	Front Desk (FD)	6
	Inn Mates (IM)	6
	Director's Assistants (DA)	6
	Ladies of Larch (LOL)	5
	Women of Bloomfield (WOB)	5
	Birch Bunch (BB)	2
	Women of Cherry (WOC)	2
	Guys of Gilmore (GOG)	2
	Phoebe Lewis (PL)	1

Τηε Χρυμβ

(The Crumb)

Volume 85, Number 15

Monday, July 12, 2004

The Puzzler

What 2000 film contained a scene with a bust of Homer in the background? The entire title is scattered among headlines...

Schedule

Madrigalists
4:45, Barn

Yoga
5:00, Barn 2

David Huddle
Reading
7:30, Barn

Dinner

Ricotta & vegetable turnovers or beef stroganoff; chef's choice of vegetable; snowflake cake for dessert.

Weather

Today:
Scattered
T-storms, 79/61.

Tomorrow:
PM T-storms,
75/61.

Wednesday:
Scattered
T-storms, 81/59.

Book I: The Story So Far

Sing in me, Moose, and through me tell the story of that man skilled in all ways of directing, the world traveler, absent for days on end, at Santa Fe and then in Mexico, but now, he hoped, returning to Vermont and to his wife, Penelucy, and to the one he'd left in charge, Temilykhos.

No grey-eyed goddess helped him on his way; the dreaded airport lines and taxicabs he faced completely on his own, with just his guile and wits to get him through.

But in his absence, unrest soon took hold in Ripton. Each student had an easy life, their food and drink brought forth in plenteousness, yet each desired more – more Otter Creek, more yummy salted cashews, more red wine.

Temilykhos said to Penelucy: "Why should we such impertinence endure? Our Jim, should he return, would chafe and gripe at such rudeness. O, bring him safely home, sweet goddess of the skies, United Air!"

Book II: The Great Poet Speaks

I guess that Dawn with fingers of pink light spread forth upon the eastern sky this morn – but who gets up to see the rising sun when you've been up 'till two or three in silent struggle with that eight-page paper? But when the chariot of Phaethon approached its journey's end, Temilykhos, whom Jim had left in charge of his domain when he departed on his distant quest, rose from her chair of stoutest oak and said: "Let us have stories! Summon here the bard named **David Huddle!** Let him read his work to us tonight at seven-thirty sharp. And let there be no children brought, for this man's tales contain some naughty bits they should not hear." And so within the Barn such tales he spun, so masterful his work, that all were moved to laughter and to tears. When he had finished, young Temilykhos rose up and said, "A pleasant reading, this. Let us to Treman, and for all full bowls of mellow wine from California's coast."

Still none had noticed, standing in the back, a simple, silent, travel-wearied man. Supposed gone, forgotten, lost, abroad, in other lands – this was what people thought. But Jim it was. He had returned.

Book III: Where Art Aids Disguise

How was it, then, that Jim remained unseen? He had disguised himself by **purchasing a Bread Loaf T-shirt by Suzannah Carr**, she of bright ideas and skillful pen. Of dollars cost it only ten, a happy price. By wearing it, he so well blended in that none could tell that it was truly he. If you desire such a garment too, Inscribe your name upon the sheet that hangs outside the Dining Hall. You must act soon to have your shirt in hand by summer's end. For powerful though the wondrous gods may be, last-minute orders they cannot accommodate.

Book IV: Thou Learned Ones, Gather

Then Gary, leader of the Senior Class, said to his fellow Seniors, "**Let us meet, for it is time to speak of summer's end, of graduation things, Tuesday at 5. Prepare the Parlor Blue for our assembly.**" But Gary had some secret, darker plans. If Jim did not return, he vowed, then *he*, as Headwaiter, should rule this land. Temilykhos, he knew, would pose no threat to this his plan, for he controlled caffeine, without the which no normal human could survive for long up here.

Book V: Songs of Hope

But all had not lost hope. The strong of voice, **the Madrigalists, yet sung again this day, filling the Barn at 4:45 with hearty joyous sound.** They hoped for his return, for this same group had sung to him upon the summer's op'ning eve and yearned to entertain him once again. Jim heard the strains of old, and though he yearned to lift his voice in song with them, held back.

Book VI: A Much Sought-For Escape

In secret then went Jim into Barn 2, where what he saw disturbed and worried him: A group of students, motionless and mute. Entranced, it seemed, by some malicious force. So Jim, the homesick wanderer, bellowed forth: "Has Kirke, sly enchantress, so bewitched these souls that they desire not to speak? To move? Have these the evils of the world Reached even here? O gods, your aid I seek!" But all this yelling stirred the group to rise and say, "Shut up, you silly person, you! This is but **Monday's usual Yoga class, which meets from five to six in Classroom Two. Begone, and let us clear our minds again.**" And so, unrecognized and scorned, great Jim turned out the door and headed on his way.

Book VII: Memories of His Mountain Kingdom

His travels took him next into the Inn,
and found the **Bread Loaf pictures for this year,**
full half a dozen different shots, all great.

He saw they could be ordered all this week
as small or larger prints. Friends saw he there,
familiar faces all, and longed to speak with them,
when Kalli shouted, "*Jim! It's you!*" At once,
the hand of the Director shot across
the countertop, grabbed Kalli by the throat.
Jim hissed, "Don't say a word. It's true, I'm back,
but if they hear of this downtown they'll have
my head upon a platter! I should be
in Mexico right now, but all I want to do
is have a couple quiet days alone
so I can read *My Life* in peace and quiet!
Now sit you down, and I'll tell you my tale."

Book VIII: The Riddle of the Kyklops

Then Jim told Kalli of his long ordeals:
"When on my way to Santa Fe," he said,
"Our plane did stop – damn budget airline route!
Mere inconvenience any other time,
but we had stopped within the land of Kyklopes.
One took us prisoner; a fearful thing,
and in his dwelling were we all confined.
He crouched within his cave and told the crowd:
'I can't eat all of you – I need the heartburn
just like I need a sharp stick in the eye.
But tasty morsels you would make, and so
here's what I'll do. Get Friday's question right,
and you are free to go; if not, yum yum!
(I got the idea from my friend the Sphinx.)
I ask you this: Who first was cast as Mozart?'"

First forward strode the team of Pederson
and Kaplan, noble pair, and heretofore
unerring in their answers. "We know!"
they shouted, almost seeing home's sweet light
within their reach. "It's Kevin Kline!" Alas,
those words were doomed to be their last. The Kyklops
roared with glee, then clutched them in his fists
and ate them up with two quick bites.

Next **Christie Beveridge**, the waitstaff-queen,
With upraised spear and brazen voice, said:
"O fearsome one, I venture thus: **the role**
of Mozart first was Ken Branagh's
before the Fates then gave the role to Hulce."

The Kyklops said:

"Well answered, you! A deal's a deal. I said
That I would set you free, and so I shall."
So Christie scaped the cave, relieved but sad
at knowing all too well that she, poor soul,
would have to cover Andy's dinner tables.
Marie D'Amato, clever one, was right as well,
and so her freedom from the Kyklops earned."

Book IX: O Bother! A Lost Item

Meanwhile, a frantic cry from the Front Desk:
a visitor last week from Andover
misplaced her camera; it has not yet been found.
Then wise Temilykhos gave advice:
"Perchance someone has picked it up
and kept it, thinking it a happy find.
It is not yours. Give it to the Front Desk,

and the gods will smile upon your family;
retain it for yourself, and mighty Zeus
will roar. With him you do not want to mess."

Book X: The Test of the List

Now Penelucy heard excited whispers
That said her Jim had finally returned.
Both hope and doubt suffused her noble heart,
so she devised a cunning test for all,
proclaiming to the school, "The test shall come.
Let it be thus. Four days, till Thursday next,
you have to brainstorm for not one, but *two*
Top Ten lists: **Best and Worst Excuses**
to Give Professors for Not Turning in an Essay.
In his prime – ah, let me remember now,
my husband, he who's gone, could dream them up
with such a store of wit and cleverness!
No others' names would grace the list but his.
But let all try their best, and I shall read.
If my beloved has returned indeed,
his words I won't mistake."

Book XI: The Music of the Festival

Within the town there was great merriment,
the summer's annual festival underway.
Each night the harps were tuned, the voices raised,
and Euterpe the muse brought forth sweet sounds.
Tonight it's **Chanterelle, a French-Canadian group**
and Mango Jam – a Zydeco-type band,
not a preserve. They'll play respectively
at seven and half-past eight upon the Green.

Book XII: What's Yet to Come

In conference with good counsel, Jim announced
his plans for celebrating his return.
"Here's what I'd like – a rain of arrows upon
mine enemies, the quivering feathered ends
sticking in their throats and livers as they fall,
Their cups, their bread and meat, split and scattered.
I'll aim and shoot, with each shot bringing down
one of my huddling enemies, and then
when my entire quiver I have emptied,
I will unsheathe my sword and hew them down
Until the blood runs smoking on the floor."
His counsel, loyal lawyers all, advised:
"But Jim, you really cannot do this bloody deed.
First, it's against the law; we might get sued.
It's bad for business! Indeed, who would apply
if we thus advertised: "Graduate school in English,
professors great, a lovely site, but some small chance
of getting slaughtered during dinnertime"?
And who will clean up all the mess? Why not
just skip that and – oh, I don't know – walk inland
with an oar upon your shoulder blade?"
And wise Jim realized the folly of his quest,
and called the whole thing off. You'll have to wait
a few more days before you see him after all.

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 16

Tuesday, July 13, 2004

The Puzzler

Network is one of two films to win three Academy Awards for acting in the same year. The other is an adaptation of a famous work of literature. What is it?

Schedule

5:00

Senior Meeting

Blue Parlor

Dinner

Trout with compound butter and sun-dried tomatoes; butternut squash & carrot puree with seasonal vegetables; brown rice; sponge cake for dessert.

Weather

You're not gonna like this...

Today:

Scattered showers, 73/60.

Tomorrow through next Wednesday:

Isolated T-storms,
highs around 75.

The Magic Montano

Senior Class President and organizational wizard Gary Montano informs the *Crumb* that the Class of 2004 will have a very important meeting this afternoon at 5 in the Blue Parlor to finalize some details of Commencement Weekend. Please make every effort to attend. (Only if you're a senior, that is. Everyone else is free to attend to other obligations.)

Jazz Strains Ease Paper Strain

If you're looking to celebrate finishing that first essay or just seeking to escape the rapidly escalating stress levels in the Library and Apple Cellar, consider the pair of concerts offered tonight as part of Middlebury's Festival-on-the-Green. The evening begins at 7 with a performance by local jazz trio The Girls Next Door. Then it's Vikki True, whom the Berkshire Herald described as a "one-woman jazz explosion," at 8:30.

Middst Opportunity

Professors and students aren't the only ones at Bread Loaf who write, and Wednesday's Writers in the Middst reading provides ample evidence of that fact. Come to the Blue Parlor tomorrow at 7:15 to hear Michele Stepto, Scott Elledge, and Jean Hanff Korelitz read from their fiction.

Gobble Up School Photos...

Remember that Ed Brown will take orders all week long for any and all Bread Loaf 2004 photos, copies of which have been posted around the Front Desk.

...But Leave Room for a BL T

Suzannah Carr's prizewinning Bread Loaf T-shirt design is on display outside the Dining Hall. By adding your name to the order form nearby, you guarantee that you'll receive your shirt by the end of the summer session; after that, you'll be reminded of your wonderful summer each time you put it on and each time someone glances quizzically at the shirt and politely asks just what on earth "Bread Loaf" is.

Two Top Tens, See?

Important legal disclaimers from the *Crumb*'s crack attorney, Sue M. Hall: Time spent conceiving ideas for **Top Ten Best** and **Top Ten Worst Excuses for Handing in Your Essay Late** may detract from time essential for composition of actual essay. Submissions may or may not be based in experience, but inclusion of said submissions in Thursday's Top Ten list does not constitute grounds for attempting practical application of any particular excuse, yours or another party's, in attempt to win extension from professor. List of Top Ten submissions is unlikely to earn professorial approval if presented as substitute for actual essay.

Like They're Coen out of Style

Respondents came flocking from all corners of the Bread Loaf community with the correct answer to yesterday's trivia question. Eric Eye, Christie Beveridge, Tom Forteith, Team Pederson/Kaplan, Liz Winter (students), Justin Nilsson (grounds crew), Elizabeth Bunch (Acting Ensemble), Robbie Harold (alum), and Lucy Fyler (faculty child) all spotted *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* lurking in yesterday's headlines. If you think you've figured out today's mystery work, e-mail Jon Freeman with your answer and see your name in print in tomorrow's *Crumb*.

Crass Menagerie

In what appears to be a rather indelicate effort to distinguish herself from the horde of students reporting run-of-the-mill moose sightings, Liz Winter brags that in one weekend she saw a hummingbird on the Larch porch, a young porcupine waddling across 125, and a deer somewhere near Burlington, although the fact that she was lost at the time makes an exact location difficult to pinpoint.

Given the moose population's seeming casualness about being seen this summer, the *Crumb* is considering publishing from now on only those reports of unusual moose activity (menacing passersby, *reading* the poems along the Frost trail, parsing) or sightings of seldom-seen creatures (emu, capybara, lemur, Cerberus). Feel free to embellish pedestrian wildlife encounters with abandon in order to enhance their chances

of being seen in print. (*Crumb* attorney Sue M. Hall notes that the *Crumb* conspicuously lacks any guarantee of factual authenticity and can thereby extend this journalistically unsound advice.)

Save Penny, Earn More

Penny Batt is looking for a babysitter for either Thursday or Friday night. You can get in touch with her on BreadNet if you're interested.

Duress for Suppressed

Each Bread Loaf summer brings with it a unique set of challenges, intellectual and otherwise: pounding out that Chaucer paper, mastering the intricacies of terza rima, teaching parts of one's anatomy besides one's mouth to sing... None of these demands, however, can match the intense pressure of devising a costume for the annual Suppressed Desires costume dance, to be held on July 24. The upcoming long weekend may afford ample opportunity to plunder the thrift stores and consignment shops of Middlebury or Burlington or your hometown in search of inspiration and/or the proper paraphernalia (for example, Daisy Buchanan: flapper dress, beads, cigarette holder). Take it from this writer (Sporty Spice, 1999: wig, makeup, Nerf football cut in half and strategically positioned for maximum anatomical accuracy) that pickings at local stores can get pretty slim as the dance nears, so you might want to get moving soon.

On the Block

At an auction of literary treasures last week at Sotheby's, a rather risqué love letter from James Joyce to Nora Barnacle sold for \$445,000, while the original proofs for *Dubliners* fetched a neat \$207,000. Those figures seem paltry, however, when compared to the anticipated revenue from next week's Bread Loaf Charity Auction. All proceeds go to the sadly underfunded *Crumb* Investigative Reporting Department, which hopes to travel to the Cayman Islands, Tuscany, Curacao, Disney World, the Loire Valley, and Sedona to do research for a six-part series entitled "Places Where There Are No Moose."

A sampling of the items to be auctioned off:

#7. Love Letter from Dr. Seuss to Unknown, 1959.

Heretofore unknown missive from famed children's author to unnamed paramour. Rhymed iambic tetrameter throughout, a la *Green Eggs and Ham*; content expresses speaker's amenability towards potential settings for various romantic liaisons: "in a boat," "in a moat," "in the dark," "in the park," etc.

Estimate: \$80,000-\$100,000

#12. My Last Duchess. Oil on canvas. Fra Pandolf. 1842.

Portrait in classical style. Astonishing quality. Looks as if she were alive, though mantle laps over wrist too much and paint does not reproduce faint half-flush that dies along her throat. Sure to please everyone.

Estimate: \$13,000-\$18,000

#28. Robert Frost's Complete Collection of Archie Comic Books.

Assortment of 217 different issues between 1948-1961 from the following series: *Archie's Girls: Betty and Veronica; Archie's Pals; Archie and Jughead*. Copious marginalia: "Ha! HA!" next to panel featuring Moose falling into wet cement; "Two options. Can't choose both. What to do? Idea for poem..." near panel in which Archie mulls Betty/Veronica dilemma.

Estimate: \$500-\$1,000

#413. Horse.

Unremarkable equine specimen, suitable for farm work or petting zoo but invaluable during Battle of Bosworth.

Estimate: \$800-\$1200, or \$75,000,000 if Richard III is among the bidders.

#117. Staff. Carved wood. Italian manufacture.

Interesting magical artifact found on tropical island, apparently abandoned there by previous inhabitant. Suitable for bedimming noontide sun, calling forth mutinous winds, rifting Jove's stout oak with his own bolt, op'ning graves, waking sleepers, and letting them forth, etc. Airy spirit not included.

Estimate: \$3,500,000-\$5,000,000

#45. Grecian Urn. "Red-Figure" period, c. 450 B.C.E.

Relic from Etruscan tomb. Figures appear to be still-unravished bride of quietness and unwearied happy melodist forever piping songs forever new. Unfortunately lacking data regarding artisan, place of origin, story depicted, or provenance; above information is all we know on earth and all ye need to know to bid.

Estimate: \$7,000-\$10,000

#81A. Early e.e. cummings Manuscript

Believed to be the only known copy in existence of an e.e. cummings work in ALL CAPITALS. Written to real or imaginary neighbor; subject is unnamed "DAMNED DOG" who has befouled speaker's yard, much to his consternation. Official biographers maintain that threat to "PICK IT ALL UP AND FILL YOUR MAILBOX WITH" offending matter was never actually carried out. Some critical doubt as to nature of piece: poem? angry missive? Unclear.

Estimate: \$75-\$125

The CyberCrumb

Volume 85, Number 17

Wednesday, July 14, 2004

The Puzzler

Which Nobel Laureate in Literature would have turned 100 today (according to the birth date he claimed for himself)?

Schedule

Director's Reception

5:00, West Lawn

Yoga

5:00, Barn 2

Ultimate

7:00, Field

Writers in the Middst

7:15, Blue Parlor

Sexual

Orientation

Discussion Group

9:00, Blue Parlor

Dinner

Spaghetti and meatballs or potato gnocchi with mixed vegetables; ice cream for dessert.

Weather

For the entire foreseeable future:

Chance of thunderstorms.

Highs in the mid-70's; lows in the mid-50's.

Happy Meeting in the Middst

Tonight's Writers in the Middst reading showcases the prodigious talent to be found in faculty families. In the Blue Parlor at 7:15, Scott Elledge will read a short story, Jean Hanff Korelitz an excerpt from her upcoming novel, and Michele Stepto a three-part fable. Everyone is invited to attend.

Review Question: Was Dian Fossey right to dump her pretty but vapid boyfriend to devote herself to her work? And is it ethical to kill a would-be poacher to defend an

animal's right to its natural habitat? *Discuss.* [Editor's Note: Sorry. These appear to be review questions for *Gorillas in the Mist*, not "Writers in the Middst." We regret any confusion.]

Third Reception Features Seconds, Fifths

Nothing alleviates the midweek doldrums and/or the essay-writing blues like getting invited to a Director's Reception. You'll want seconds of Chef Mike's hors d'oeuvres, and a cooling cocktail or two from the bar goes well with the lively conversation. Jim has returned from his New and Old Mexico odyssey, and if you're on today's guest list, he'll be glad to regale you with tales of his travels, including the one about Jeff Nunokawa being mistaken for, and then insisting that he *was*, Jackie Chan. I kid you not.

If rain dampens the proceedings, the whole shebang will just up and move to Treman.

Review Question: What do you do if you don't like the walnuts that are in the mixed nuts they serve at the bar? Can you pick through the bowl for the kinds you want, or does etiquette demand that you grab a whole handful and spit out the walnuts into your napkin?

Anniversary Trivia

Robbie Harold and Team Pederson/Kaplan chimed in with the right answer to yesterday's Puzzler. The headline "Crass Menagerie" was a tempting but indirect hint, as it's actually *A Streetcar Named Desire* that's one of the two films that's won three acting Oscars. Bonus points to Robbie for knowing that the three winners were Vivien Leigh, Karl Malden, and, of course, Kim Hunter. Yeah, on second thought, that Brando guy didn't add a whole lot.

Review Question: The Acting Ensemble complained that the question was misleading – that *Streetcar* isn't an adaptation of a "famous work of literature," but an adaptation of a famous work of *dramatic* literature. Do they have a point, or are they just a bunch of whining prima donnas? *Discuss.*

Misses Glasses, Actress Stresses

Acting Ensemble member Cindy Rosenthal has misplaced a pair of dark brown prescription glasses with smallish rectangular frames. If you happen across a stray pair anywhere around campus that fits this description, please return them to her. Without them, Cindy could misread Mariana's line "They say best men are moulded out of faults" as "The sexiest men are moldy and have flutes," an enigmatic line that would throw the fifth act of *Measure for Measure* into no small confusion.

Review Question: If Cindy in fact says the "revised" line, what emergency response should Chris Hutchison (Duke Vincentio) have at the ready? Must be in iambic pentameter. "It's a *sausage!*" is not acceptable.

Crumb Has No Excuse for This Article

With one day left before the deadline, the *Crumb* Bum hasn't received any submissions for this week's Top Ten lists – **Top Ten Best** and **Worst Excuses for**

Handing in Your Paper Late. Remember that because of the long weekend, the lists will be published in *tomorrow's Crumb* – so send your ideas to Jon Freeman via campus mail or BreadNet by 11 a.m. in the hopes of keeping pace with the Men of Annex.

Review Question: Which of your ideas for Worst Excuse would elicit the greatest amount of ire from your professor? Test the validity of your hypothesis by giving the aforementioned excuse to your professor tomorrow in lieu of your six-page essay on *Antony and Cleopatra*.

Bum Rap

Just because the campus population dwindles a bit over the long weekend doesn't mean the Barn dance will be any less boogie-rific. This Saturday's dance is just as long and loud as the previous two, with the added advantage of providing you with more square feet of Barn floor space in which to perform your unique Terpsichorean tribute. Christian and Beth return from last week's successful engagement (as DJ's, not to each other) to run the first two hours, with Abra Chernik taking over from 11-1.

Review Question: In "It's the End of the World As We Know It," why does the progression of "birthday party, cheesecake, jellybean" lead to "boom"? Brainstorm possible explanations for this unexpectedly explosive sequence.

I, Dare Say Play's Thursday

Members of the Bread Loaf Acting Ensemble will be reading a new play by Dare Clubb Thursday afternoon from 2:00 to about 5:00 in Treman. It is the first of two informal readings Dare is directing this summer. Dare will be working with the actors during the reading. All are welcome.

Love Handles a Problem in Film

Friday's film is *Big Night*, the story of two brothers who risk their Italian restaurant's survival on a pull-out-all-the-stops celebrity dinner, their unspoken sibling affection eventually overcoming the quarrels and challenges that endanger their dream. Their story will warm your heart, but it'll tug at your stomach, too. If Tony Shalhoub's mouthwatering *timpano* makes your bag of SmartFood seem unappetizing by comparison, don't say we didn't warn you. (The phone number of the closest Italian restaurant, Green Peppers, is 388-3164. They can provide you with the large quantities of takeout pasta and veal parmigiana you will almost certainly crave halfway through the film.)

Review Question #1: Prepare to debate both "pro" and "con" sides of following argument: Anyone making the slightest noise during the film's stunning final scene should be pelted with unwanted SmartFood and/or leftover veal parmigiana.

Review Question #2: Why, if we get takeout, does the person who places the order not have to drive to pick it up? The two tasks are hardly equally onerous, especially since she's the one who likes anchovies and knows how I hate it when my car smells all fishy.

You Can't Lose with Singers

Here's who's on tonight's Middlebury Festival-on-the-Green double bill. Scott Ainslie narrates and performs a history of American blues at 7, followed by the "wild, energetic, and unpredictable" Waybacks, whose music ranges from folk to jazz to jug band, at 8:30.

Review Question: Devise a schedule that permits you to attend the play reading, the yoga class, the Writers in the Middst reading, and part of the Middlebury festival, leaving enough time in between to finish *Far from the Madding Crowd* and write your Elizabeth Bishop paper. You may not utilize time travel and/or superhuman powers.

Very Happy Campers

Jim reports that students at Santa Fe and Guadalajara campuses are having wonderful summers. He described student rooms in Guadalajara as "the nicest at any of the five campuses," reported on organized trips to historical sites and – prepare to be envious – the beach, and conceded after some pointed questioning from Deposed Queen Emily that there is, in fact, worthy academic work being carried out there as well.

Santa Fe is as highly enrolled as it's ever been, and the Director indicated that he is satisfied that student bliss and enthusiasm remains at the impressively high level he has come to expect there.

Review Question: What makes the rooms in Mexico so much better than the rooms anywhere else? Are this year's Mexico students just neater? Do they have minibars? Jacuzzis? Tele...tele-vid...you know, those magic boxes that show moving pictures?

Much Orr-ganization

In order that you may adjust your training regimen accordingly, please note that this year's Charlie Orr Memorial Fun Run – a quick 5K jaunt down 125 to the Frost Trail and back – will be held on Saturday, July 31 at 9:30 a.m. The race is open to runners, joggers, skippers, hoppers, amblers, saunterers, walkers, lurchers (if you plan on hearty partying on Friday night), dog-walkers, and anyone else – and as your nominal entry fee helps endow the Charlie Orr Memorial Scholarship, it's an event well worth supporting. Look for further details in next week's *Crumbs*.

Review Question: Devise a "training regimen" for the *Crumb Bum* that preferably involves no exercise, is compatible with continued support of the Otter Creek Brewing Corp., and can be undertaken beginning on the morning of the race.

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 18

Thursday, July 15, 2004

The Puzzler

Which famous playwright died 100 years ago today?

Schedule

Today

Dare Clubb Play
2-5, Treman

Madrigalists 4:45

Soccer 5:00

Gilmore 9:00

Friday

Yoga 3:30, Barn 2

Big Night 9, Barn

Saturday

Dance 9-1, Barn

Sunday

Yoga 3:30, Barn 2

Ultimate 4:00

Blue Parlor, 7:30

Dinner

Steaks with
mashed potatoes
or veggie strudel;
blueberry pie for
dessert.

Weather

Today & tomorrow:

Scattered storms,
highs around 70.

Weekend:

Chance of rain,
highs near 80.

Gilmore Says "No More!"

A message from the Men of Gilmore: "You are, of course, invited to another gathering at Gilmore this evening starting at 9. The usual reading from *Ellen*, the renowned secret faculty guest, the usual bonfire, the usual refreshments. The first three come at a nominal cost (although Maddox did demand what seemed an exorbitant 'appearance fee'). The last – the beverages – are not, however, delivered gratis by the good spirits of the woods, nor are they supplied by Bread Loaf, as many of you may believe. They are paid for **in theory** by your contributions, but **in practice** the financial burden has fallen squarely, and unfairly, upon the Men of Gilmore. We are perfectly willing to debase ourselves through inventive interpretations of *Ellen*, but we will not continue to deplete our increasingly bare pocketbooks to fund Thursday's fun. It's up to *you* to keep the tradition of Gilmore going. Please give generously tonight."

Alvarez Returns for Monday's Reading

World-renowned author Julia Alvarez proudly counts a Middlebury undergraduate degree and three further years of study at Bread Loaf among her many laurels, and on Monday she'll return here to read from her work in the Barn at 7:30. Julia's most recent work is the collection of poems *The Woman I Kept to Myself*. Her first novel, *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents*, was selected by New York librarians as one of the "21 Classics for the 21st Century," alongside such titles as *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, *Invisible Man*, and *Song of Solomon*. Her next novel, *In the Time of the Butterflies*, was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in 1995. She's currently Writer-in-Residence at Middlebury College, and we are fortunate indeed to be able to welcome her on Monday night. Needless to say, this is a Barn reading you won't want to miss.

Break, Break, Break

I'm guessing that you already know that there are no classes tomorrow, but it's worth noting these other closings and schedule changes for the long weekend. Beginning with dinner tonight and continuing through Sunday's lunch, meals shift to the weekend schedule. The Office will be closed tomorrow, as will the Bookstore. Cornwall, however, will remain open. There will be a van run on Friday, but it will leave the Front Desk at 9 a.m. sharp.

If You're a Poet, You Probably Know It

Remember that the deadline for this year's Bread Loaf poetry contest is fast approaching. You may submit one or two poems, maximum 40 lines each; put them in an envelope with your name on a separate sheet of paper (not on the poems themselves) and give it to Judy Jessup in the Inn West Seminar Room by 5 p.m. next Wednesday.

T Time is Today

In order to guarantee delivery of this year's Bread Loaf T-shirts by the end of the summer, the order has to go to the printer tomorrow. So if you want the road-sign design (and who doesn't? It's what *everybody* will be wearing this August) and haven't yet added your name to the sheet outside the Dining Hall, please do so today.

Ed has graciously extended the deadline for ordering prints of any school photos until Monday. Pay him by then and you'll receive your print by the end of the summer; after that, you'll have to pay him extra to cover the cost of shipping your photo to you.

Where You Have to Take Six Courses

Big Night, starring Stanley Tucci, Minnie Driver, Ian Holm, and Tony Shalhoub, will be showing tomorrow in the Barn at 9. The *Crumb* Bum plans to arrive laden with enough Italian food to stave off the hunger pangs this tale of an Italian restaurant will almost certainly produce, but the usual supply of SmartFood will also be available. After the film, Lea Kelley and Gary Montano plan to arm themselves with sharp knives and bar the door to the Kitchen, protecting the stores within from the ravenous horde that, having had a meal for the ages paraded before them onscreen, will head in search of anything remotely resembling risotto (Rice Krispies, perhaps).

Cheery? Tortured? Head to Barn Dance

Saturday's Micro-Dance isn't smaller in any of the ways that really *matter*. Still four hours of tunes spun by Christian, Beth, and Abra. Still refreshments aplenty. Still the same disco ball. It's just a slightly more intimate gathering, due to the fact that some folks head elsewhere for the long weekend. Whether there will be an additional "intimate gathering" afterwards is, of course, largely dependent on the impressiveness of your dance moves, the suavity of your manner, and the effectiveness of your chosen pick-up line.

Game for a Game?

Gabe Lezra says that if the weather's fair this afternoon, there will be another soccer game on the field at 5.

Usual Suspects Rush In Answers

...but only Robbie Harold reigns today, having correctly identified Isaac Bashevis Singer as the writer who claimed to have been born 100 years ago. Robbie adds that "as one of the original magical realists, I guess he can have been born any time that suits him." The accuracy of Team Pederson/Kaplan's guess of Pablo Neruda is under further review; most sources say he was born on July 12, 1904, with a few daring to go as far as July 13 but none, as far as the *Crumb*'s research can tell, willing to stake a claim to July 14. We'll see if Team P/K can rebound with today's question, for which there are many clues and, it would seem, relatively few candidates.

See Gullible Professors Buy *These* Excuses

The original plan was to publish two lists, one for the best paper excuses and one for the worst. They all seem pretty lame, though, so in consolidated form, here's the

Top T(wo doz)en (Plus One) Worst Excuses for Handing in an Essay Late

25. Got lost on the Frost Trail. (WS)
24. I flew to Chamonix to check out all the hubbub about Mont Blanc for myself. (IM)
23. Couldn't stop giggling over witty paper titles. (COBE)
22. Too busy deciphering the g-ddamn *Crumb*. (MOA, COBE)
21. Old friend, Jack Daniels, stopped in from out of town. (COBE)
20. The process of cutting and milling wood to make my own paper was more laborious than expected. (NBB)
19. Sparknotes.com crashed. (MOA, COBE)
18. Oops, did *you* drop that \$100 bill? (NBB)
17. Security took away my Muse, and do you know how much another six-pack would have cost? (MOA)
16. I thought the essence of post-impressionism was *oneness*, not conformity. (NBB)

15. I lost my sheep and spent all night trying to find them. (IM)
14. Too busy laughing at the fact that the Guys of Gilmore are languishing near the bottom of the standings. (MOA)
13. Because I was getting you your G-d-damned decaf! (WS)
12. It turns out that my "still, small voice" was full of crap. (MOA)
11. Couldn't concentrate due to roommate's singing genitalia. (LOL)
10. I only study when my animal crackers advise me to. (LOL)
9. It's been held up pending final revisions at the Oxford University Press. I'll send you a free copy. (NBB)
8. And break my streak of nights drunk on the porch? (LOL)
7. Forced to go shot-for-shot with Emily Bartels at West Lawn reception. (MOA)
6. "Quick" bike ride with Kalli took longer than expected. (MOA)
5. Ran out of crayons. (COBE)
4. Don't be sad. It's not you. It's me. I just need some time. (NBB)
3. Jim Maddox escaped before he finished it. (MOA)
2. Your other half and I took "the road not taken." (WS)
1. Ed Brown ate my homework. (MOA)

Current standings:	Men of Annex (MOA)	23
	Children of Barn East (COBE)	14
	North Branch Boys (NBB)	13
	Waitstaff (WS)	10
	Fyler Sisters (FS)	8
	Inn Mates (IM)	8
	Ladies of Larch (LOL)	8
	Front Desk (FD)	6
	Director's Assistants (DA)	6
	Women of Bloomfield (WOB)	5
	Birch Bunch (BB)	2
	Women of Cherry (WOC)	2
	Guys of Gilmore (GOG)	2
	Phoebe Lewis (PL)	1

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 19

Monday, July 19, 2004

The Puzzler

Who is the only author being read in a Bread Loaf course this summer also to have written a book that was the single best-selling work of fiction in the U.S. during one calendar year in the 20th century?

Schedule

Madrigalists
4:45, Barn

Yoga
5:00, Barn 2

Julia Alvarez
Reading
7:30, Barn

Dinner

Sweet & sour beef over brown rice or ravioli with carrot ginger sauce; mixed vegetables; dessert's a surprise.

Weather

Today & tomorrow:
Scattered thunderstorms. High near 80.

Wednesday:
Partly cloudy, 84/62.

Julia Alvarez Brightens the Barn Tonight at 7:30

World-renowned author, Middlebury Writer-in-Residence, and former Bread Loaf student Julia Alvarez will be reading from her work in the Barn at 7:30 tonight. Best known for her novels *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents*, *In the Time of the Butterflies*, and *Yo!*, Ms. Alvarez is also an accomplished poet, memoirist, and children's author. Her most recent work is the collection of poems *The Woman I Kept to Myself*. Her work has been named to the "21 Classics for the 21st Century," nominated for the National Book Critics Circle Award, and included in *The Best American Poetry*. The Barn will be packed for this much-anticipated visit, so plan to arrive early to snag one of the best seats.

Photo Finish

Today is the last day to order prints of any of the beautiful Bread Loaf photos on display at the Front Desk without having to pay extra for shipping costs. Find Ed Brown to place your order.

\$1000 Prize Not Bad for Free Verse

The entry deadline for this year's Bread Loaf Poetry Contest is Wednesday at 5:00. You may submit one or two poems, each no longer than forty lines. Make sure your names do not appear on the poems themselves; instead, write your name on a separate sheet of paper, put that sheet in an envelope along with your poem(s), and give the envelope to Judy Jessup in the Inn Seminar Room before the deadline.

Orr Run O'errun with Participants

A signup sheet for the 20th Annual Charlie Orr Memorial 5K Fun Run has appeared outside the Dining Hall and is rapidly filling with names. Your \$5 entry fee goes toward the Charlie Orr Memorial Scholarship Fund and gets you a free T-shirt...what a bargain! The race will be held on July 31st, starting at 9:30 at the future site of John's Pond.

Dress to Suppress

By now everyone knows that Suppressed Desires is this weekend. If you haven't come up with a costume idea yet, get cracking on it soon, as the local supply of feather boas, bell-bottomed trousers, fishnet stockings, fake eyelashes, and toupees is rapidly diminishing.

Motel Deep-Sixed: No Camping Allowed

Leo and Ed remind everyone that camping is prohibited on the Bread Loaf campus. Use the vast acreage of the local National Forests if you need a place to pitch your tent.

Pastoral Setting Yields Animal Sightings

Not content with simply being spotted, some local critters have moved into attack mode and unsettled Bread Loafers quietly going about their business. The Muldoon family encountered a bear on the Homer Noble Farm driveway, Steve Garnett joined Lucy Maddox as a victim of grouse harassment, and Inn inhabitants had to deal with an active bat on Thursday night. Other sightings involving less-than-wild-life: a camel at one of the farms along Route 7, two roosters just past the Ripton schoolhouse, and a family of carved wooden bears on 116 just north of East Middlebury.

Tennis Elbows Its Way into Schedule

Draws for Wimbledoaf 2004 have been posted outside the Dining Hall. The only way the *Crumb* Bum can stave off complete humiliation in his first-round match against Ed Brown is by promising that any taunts, insults, or mockery Ed offers as he bludgeons the Bum will be answered with malicious, slanderous, and possibly incriminating news items about Ed in future *Crumbs*.

Tickets in Measured Quantities

This weekend isn't the only time this summer that suppressed desires will be on display for public viewing. You'll see plenty of alternate identities and odd disguises during the production of *Measure for Measure*: Angelo has a rather naughty thing for nuns, while Duke Vincentio wants nothing more than to prowl the countryside dressed as a monk. To see the show, however, you'll need tickets, which are free and available from the Front Desk anytime this week. We ask that you get tickets for only one night until everyone has had a chance to grab theirs, after which you'll be able to reserve spots for a second night, or a third, or fourth...

Golfers Struggle with Another Course

Middlebury's golf course can present a stiff challenge if you're inaccurate off the tee or dodgy on the greens, but the format of the 4th Bread Loaf Golf Scramble means that bad shots fortunately don't count. All the more reason to sign up for the August 1st tournament, no matter whether you play mostly *like* Woods or mostly *from* the woods. See Jon Freeman for more details.

Same Group of Humans Stayin' Strong

Trivia mavens Robbie Harold and Team Pederson/Kaplan got Thursday's question right along with Stephen Berenson and Sandy Brutkowski. If you also told me that Anton Chekhov was the answer to Thursday's trivia question but don't see your name listed here, my apologies. Thursday was *so* long ago, and I just can't remember who gave me the right answer and who didn't.

Top Ten List Breaks All the Rules

Suppressed Desires is one way for you to express potentially disturbing or even dangerous impulses with little fear of any permanent stigma attaching itself to you. This week's Top Ten list is another. If you're worried that you'll relieve midsummer stress by lashing out in some unwise or even illegal fashion, consider the potential catharsis of expressing those harmful desires in Friday's list of the **Top Ten Little-Known Ways to Get Expelled from Bread Loaf**. This week may be the last real chance for Barn East or the Waitstaff to prevent the Men of Annex from waltzing away with their umpteenth consecutive Top Ten championship, so let the brainstorming begin!

MARTHA
STEWART

Volume 85, Number 20

July 20, 2004

Crumbing

The Puzzler

Which living author does Martha Stewart most want to meet (according to a 1995 interview)?

Schedule

Carney, Sandoe Meetings
All day,
Blue Parlor

Sexual Orientation Discussion Group
9:00, Blue Parlor

Dinner

Loin of choice pork with a delicate cilantro glaze and hand-turned baked potatoes. Or unicolor linguini with individually rolled vegetarian meatballs. Fresh Michigan peas and New Hampshire carrots, both flown in daily from California, and a decadent cherry-chocolate *gâteau*.

Weather

Today:
Scattered T-storms, 81/62.

Wed. & Thurs.:
The heat returns!
Partly cloudy,
highs near 90.

Verses They'll Recall Many Years Later

Lots of people will submit poems to the Bread Loaf Poetry Contest by tomorrow's 5 p.m. deadline, but here are some simple ways to make your poems stand out from the rest and stick in the memory of the judges:

- Apply a small amount of perfume to the paper before submitting, especially if your poem is about flowers.
- Calligraphy and/or hand-drawn illuminated letters can really brighten up the page.
- Whenever possible, utilize pleasant and mellifluous words. No one likes coming across harsh-sounding words such as "grackle," "spigot," "succotash," or "Nantucket," the last of which is especially unseemly when encountered in rhyming verse.

As You Face the Hiring Squad

Everyone knows how helpful it can be to have a friend in a position of influence ready to help you make wise decisions about your future. Just the other day, for instance, I rang up a friend of mine who works in finance, and he told me that...whoops! Mustn't say such things! Good thing I caught myself, or I could have gotten into some real "hot water"!

Anyway, Jonathan Ball, the representative from Carney, Sandoe & Associates visiting campus today, is such a person. If you signed up for a meeting time, you'll find him waiting in the Blue Parlor – and remember that promptness and a firm handshake are the first steps toward building a positive relationship!

Distant Afternoon Brings Golf Tourney

Once you've signed up for the August 1st Bread Loaf Golf Scramble on the sheet outside the Dining Hall, you'll need the intervening ten days to come up with the ideal outfit for your day at the links. Remember that visor, belt, and socks should *always* match, and that applying a little cream polish to your soft-spiked shoes can really make them glisten in the morning sun. If you have a lathe in your garage (and who doesn't?), consider grinding your own tees to present as thank-you gifts to your teammates.

Discover Nice Costumes in No Time!

I've always felt that a costume party is a great way to bring out a hidden side of yourself – but you can't do that by just picking something off the rack at the local Halloween store. I've found that by planning your outfit well in advance and keeping a few vital supplies close at hand, you can put together a costume by Saturday night that will impress the other guests and express your true inner character. For instance:

You can light up the room – literally! – by going as the Barn disco ball. All you need is a black body suit, a hot glue gun, 8,417 pieces of mirrored glass (which you can probably find just by rooting around in your "junk drawer"), and a dollop of patience!

Lots of people have acquired a pair of glasses and a copy of *Ulysses* and gone as Jim Maddox, or thrown on a seersucker coat, grabbed a Copper Ale, and claimed to be David Huddle. If you really want to make your professor costume convincing, however, consider writing an original symposium presentation or journal article beforehand and bringing it to the dance with you, then reading samples to interested bystanders. A quiet evening in the Library with a representative sampling of theory and criticism in your professor's field of study should yield plenty of material. Yes, we're *all* rushed, but making that little extra effort can transform a forgettable costume into something memorable!

Fabulous Furnishings for Fantastic Film

Barn I might fill up fast for Andy Mahlstedt's presentation on the United World Colleges tomorrow night, so get there early to find a chair – or weave one of your own, like this one I finished this morning, which uses six-millimeter cane and a traditional herringbone stitch. However you make yourself comfortable, you'll be interested in finding out more about the United World Colleges, a network of nine secondary schools in New Mexico, Canada, Wales, Norway, Italy, Swaziland, Singapore, Hong Kong, and India (where Andy himself teaches). Each offers a two-year program for students from over seventy countries in an educational environment dedicated to the schools' mission to help students "become responsible citizens, politically and environmentally aware, and committed to the ideals of peace and justice, understanding and cooperation, and the implementation of these ideals through action and personal example." Andy will give a short background presentation at 7:15, then show the documentary, which will finish in time for you to attend the Coffeehouse.

Beautify Your Barn: Some Simple Ideas

A typical New England clapboard barn such as Bread Loaf's may seem charming from the outside, but uneven flooring, drafts, and poor lighting often pose considerable challenges to even the most accomplished interior decorators. I think some crown molding would work *wonders*, really, and a gentle shade for the walls – maybe coral, or lemon? – would brighten it up considerably. We'd have to install some recessed lighting and wainscoting, but the rest would really be "signature pieces" chosen to suit your individual tastes – for me at least, a seascape on one wall, a vase of fresh flowers, and a bowl of nectarines would make the Barn into a cozy little writing nook or sewing room. It's just too bad that my decorating scheme was rejected as being incompatible with the requirements for Saturday's Suppressed Desires dance, which apparently include a disco ball, large speakers mounted conspicuously on four walls, and something called a "keg-o-rator," which I very much doubt you'll find in today's stylish Connecticut kitchens. Someone else will have to work with these difficult design elements – who it is, and what theme they've chosen, will be announced in a future *Crumb*.

I Choose Colombian for Success Tomorrow

When you're planning to entertain hundreds of guests at a Coffeehouse, of course they're going to expect fine coffee – but what else do you serve? That's the challenge that I faced when I was asked to organize tomorrow's Bread Loaf Coffeehouse (8:30, Barn). I've covered a serving table with medium-thread count white and blue linens, and we'll have a nice Colombian dark roast available and some simple biscotti to munch on between the acts. And that's really what's important – you just can't have a successful Coffeehouse without a variety of performances to keep the audience spellbound. This year's attractions include original songs, dramatic monologues, impressive spelling, and "five unforgettable minutes" from the team of Jean Korelitz and Scott Elledge, who promise something even more bizarre than last year.

You never know when you might be asked to perform at an event such as this one, so it's always best to have prepared something well in advance. For example, earlier this year I decided to memorize one Shakespearean sonnet during the forty-five minutes I spend each day in my basement laboratory extracting drops of venom from individual black widow spiders for later use against my enemies (and you'd be surprised how quickly I tend to run out of it!). Now I've got all 154 committed to memory and ready to go in a elegant little two-and-a-half-hour one-woman show that's the perfect antidote for a lull in the conversation.

Always Take That Extra Measure of Care

Planning ahead for any special occasion is a must, especially for an event as popular as next week's production of *Measure for Measure* is going to be. You can pick up tickets at the Front Desk anytime this week, and I've personally chosen a distinctive color from my palette of favorites for each night's tickets, the better to prevent confusion. Use the convenient color-coding chart below to make sure you've received tickets for the correct performance:

Wednesday:	Intense Plum
Thursday:	Atlantic Salmon
Friday:	Key Lime Pie
Saturday:	Saffron
Sunday:	Afternoon Sky

Another Year of Solid Dudes

It looks like the Men of Annex are going to become Top Ten champions once again, but let's face it – writing their ideas on ordinary legal paper lacks panache. Why not try something inventive – like miniature sculptures of the actions that would be among the **Top Ten Little-Known Ways to Get Expelled from Bread Loaf**. Simply take small blocks of unfinished granite, available at your local geological supply store, and use a carbide-tipped chisel (preferably hand-forged) to shape your piece, always bearing in mind the grain and brittleness of your medium, then polishing it to a dull shine with a pneumatic buffer. I just put the finishing touches on one I call "Stealing Maddox's Cashews" while I was waiting for my hand-painted monogrammed wrapping paper to dry.

Today's Social Faux Pas – and How to Avoid It!

The Top Ten category reminds me of a well-known way to get expelled from Bread Loaf, or at the very least to curry extreme disfavor among one's fellow students. Of course, I'm talking about taking reserve books from the library shelves and hoarding them for inordinate amounts of time. As a rule, reserve books should be borrowed for no more than three hours and taken only elsewhere in the Library; it's also considered polite to leave a note telling others where they can find you and that special critical text. As with all courtesy notes, these should be handwritten; if at all possible, use personal stationery printed on solid bonded paper in honeydew, early violet, or sea foam (available from Martha Stewart Living catalog, 36 sheets for \$24.99. Monogramming extra).

How Well Do You Know Martha? Take Today's Special Quick Quiz!

Congratulations to Team Pederson/Kaplan, Team Beveridge Stanitski, and Tom Forteith, all of whom correctly identified Philip Roth as yesterday's mystery author. Anyone who can name that special author I'm still hoping to meet will win a very special lunch with me! You'll visit one of my many estates and sample the simple fare to which I've grown increasingly fond: artichoke hearts marinated in oil from my rooftop olive grove, free-range whole-grain-fed Cornish game hen glazed with a sauce made from my grandmother's apricot jam, and Darjeeling tea with honey I'll harvest that morning from my backyard beehives.

Note: Lunch date to be determined according to mutual convenience. Ms. Stewart's schedule currently affords no openings for at least the next five months.

The CyberCrumb

Volume 85, Number 21

Wednesday, July 21, 2004

The Puzzler

Which author's last words were "Take away these pillows – I shall need them no more"?

Schedule

Poetry Contest Deadline

5:00, Inn Seminar

Director's Reception

5:00, West Lawn

Yoga

5:00, Barn 2

United World Colleges Film

7:15, Barn 1

Coffeehouse

8:30, Barn

Dinner

Spicy franks & baked beans or butternut squash with wilted spinach & fennel/white bean sauté; carrots & Brussels sprouts; scalloped potatoes; ice cream for dessert.

Weather

Today:

Hot! 86/65.

Tomorrow:

Hotter! Chance of storms, 91/67.

Friday:

Scattered storms,
82/57.

Remembering Brent

Friends of Brent Goeres are invited to a gathering tomorrow at 5 in the meadow south of Bridgman Cottage to remember and celebrate Brent's longtime relationship with the Bread Loaf community. For those who didn't know him, Brent graduated

from Bread Loaf in 1975 and returned nearly every summer after that to work in the Library. He established the scholarship fund that bears his name and donated the lovely Andrew Wyeth print of Adirondack chairs that graces the first floor of Davison. Friends are urged to attend in Goeres-type attire that would reflect Brent's passion for grace and elegance at social affairs and perhaps to bring a thought or story to share among friends. If you plan to attend, please RSVP at the Front Desk before dinner tonight.

Coffeehouse Not Chock Full O' Nuts

Well, perhaps some of the more irreverent acts will seem the tiniest bit crazy, but most of the talent on display at tonight's Coffeehouse is legitimate and truly impressive. The show starts at 8:30 in the Barn, where exotic coffees and biscotti will be available. Many thanks to Justin Morrill for coordinating the proceedings. Tonight's lineup: Dave Patterson, Isobel Armstrong's Romantic Poetry class, Marie D'Amato and Jill Hindle, Kristin Kummer, Carla Fisher, the enigmatically titled "Act I," Chris McMillan, Kirstie Rohstedt, Elizabeth Kriynovich, Chris Hutchinson, Laird Kopp, Liz Winter, Paul Epply-Schmidt, and the sequentially but no less enigmatically named "Act II."

O Brothel, Where Art Thou?

I'll tell you where: in the Barn this Saturday from 9-2. This year's Suppressed Desires theme, in keeping with the Drew Lecture and *Measure for Measure*, is "Ye Olde Bawdy House." Having bravely volunteered to sponsor the festivities, the Men of Annex have wisely turned their nightly porch conversations into planning sessions for Saturday's festivities. The transformation of the Barn will not be Overdone, nor will it be rushed through Quickly, promise the Annex Men – but they'd certainly appreciate help with the construction of decorations. So if you can lend a hand and would relish the chance to be named an Honorary Man of Annex, ask one of the guys how you can help.

Costumers Prefer to Lie Low & Stitch

The Costume Shop staff, already kicking their production into high gear as *Measure for Measure* approaches, now finds itself further swamped with requests for assistance with Suppressed Desires costumes. The staff regrets to inform everyone that the magic that happens in the Shop cannot be extended beyond Shakespeare's world and says that the only desire you should suppress is the urge to ask them for help with your Saturday night outfit.

Don't Get Scalped to See Beheadings

Poor Ragozine only appears in *Measure for Measure* as a severed head. But you won't be able to see him and the rest of the cast if you don't pick up your tickets for *Measure for Measure* at the Front Desk soon. Eventually their supply will be exhausted, and you'll have to resort to looking on Ebay for tickets. There you'll find two tickets to the Globe's production of *Measure for Measure* for £49.99, a copy of Icehouse's CD *Measure for Measure* for \$17.99, or something called *Cooking Measure for Measure with Frani Shaver Lauda: The Morton Lite Salt Cookbook* for \$1.50 (can't

believe no one's bid on it yet), but no Bread Loaf *Measure* tickets. Your only option at that point will be to seek out the rather shady character lurking outside the Theatre on performance nights whispering "Who needs two? Who needs two?," cough up \$250 for the pair of seats, and then saying, "Thanks, Professor Freedman."

Go the United Way

Just prior to the Coffeehouse, Andy Mahlstedt will give a brief presentation and show a documentary on the United World Colleges program. The United World Colleges consist of nine secondary schools in nine countries, united by one mission. The individual schools and over 120 national selection committees raise scholarship funds to enable them to select students not for their ability to pay but for their academic achievement and dedication to the ideals of the schools. The result is a two-year educational experience with students from 70-90 countries and a holistic educational environment dedicated to the schools' mission, to enable "young people to become responsible citizens, politically and environmentally aware, and committed to the ideals of peace and justice, understanding and cooperation, and the implementation of these ideals through action and personal example." The nine schools are in the USA (New Mexico), Canada (Victoria Island), Wales, Norway, Italy, Swaziland, Singapore, Hong Kong, and India. (Andy teaches at the school in India.) The program will start at 7:15 in Barn 1 and finish in time for the talent show.

BLTN Will Dig Doug's Ideas

The indefatigable Dixie Goswami's years of work at Bread Loaf have generated an army of followers, laboring with Dixie-like tirelessness for equity and opportunity in education. One especially fast-rising Dixie protege is 1997 Bread Loaf graduate Doug Wood, who Jim Maddox prophesies will one day be Secretary of Education. He's well on his way, having earned his Ed.D. from Harvard in 2000, and serving Chair of Tennessee's Board of Education as his *first* job. He's now moving on to become Executive Director and Principal Investigator at the National Academy for Excellent Teaching at Columbia University's Teachers College. Doug will be visiting campus and working with members of BLTN over the next couple of days; those who knew him when he was a student here will want to track him down to say "hi."

Verse-Case Scenario

By the time you read this, you'll only have a few hours left to submit to the Bread Loaf Poetry Contest. Put your one or two poems in an envelope along with a sheet of paper with your name on it, and give that envelope to Judy Jessup in the Inn Seminar Room by 5 p.m. today.

Don't Be Mad at Her for Leaving So Soon

Wave a quick hello to Emily Bartels, who returned from Alaska last night. While the news that everyone there is studying comes as no surprise, her stories of bear parts and naked men were considerably more interesting. If you want to know more about these tantalizing tidbits, you'll have to catch her soon – she's off to Oxford on Friday. Emily expresses her sincere hope that students will not be unduly distracted from their essays by the prolonged lamentation that her absence will almost certainly occasion.

Join the Band, or Snatch Some Extra Sleep?

I know you're tired, but on Friday night you'll have an opportunity to hear more about an exciting and creative curricular model, one that challenges traditional pedagogy and proposes discarding outdated classroom methods in favor of a culturally relevant, child-centered paradigm. Join guest professor Jack Black at 9 on Friday as he outlines these sweeping changes; although Dr. Black is unable to appear in person, he will engage us in meaningful "distance learning" through the digitized projection of his acclaimed film *School of Rock*.

What to Do If You're Not Totally Booked

Whether you're looking for some light post-Bread Loaf summer reading, interested in obtaining some of the books your hallmates have been raving about all summer, or just attempting to outdo Michael Armstrong by constructing a tower of books larger than the nineteen-story edifice currently rising on the second floor of Davison, drop by the Vermont Book Store in downtown Middlebury this week. Most of their inventory is discounted 20% through Sunday, with some even bigger savings on recent releases.

Etiquette Demands Leaving No *Crumbs* on Tables

While the *Crumb* makes no promises that its content will be in any way superior to rags such as the *Weekly World News* or *The Star* or *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, it can guarantee that it comes printed on higher-quality bleached paper. Which means, unfortunately, that it can't go in the Dining Hall's compost bucket, and it surely shouldn't go in the trash. So please take your *Crumbs* with you after lunch and hurl them into the recycling bins, where they truly belong.

Last Chance to Slay the Jabbering Flock

Another slew of incredible entries like last week's will probably give the Men of Annex an insurmountable lead in the Top Ten competition, which means you'll have to endure their insufferable crowing every time you walk past the porch. You have two whole days left to thwart the juggernaut by submitting your best ideas for the **Top Ten Little-Known Ways to Get Expelled from Bread Loaf** to the *Crumb*'s mailbox. The final list will appear in Friday's edition. Please take great care not to get your Poetry Contest submission confused with your Top Ten list. David Huddle and Paul Muldoon will find your "imagery" disturbing and displeasing, and it's hard to imagine that I'll find your poem bad enough to warrant expulsion.

Some Folks Care a Lot About Trivia

An impressive number of people rushed to name Gabriel Garcia Marquez as the author Martha Stewart most wants to meet. (Chances are that meeting won't happen for a little while, unless Marquez gets incarcerated for suspicious investment in banana plantations or something.) Spotting the famous opening sentence of *One Hundred Years of Solitude* sprinkled among the headlines were Eric Bliman, Emily Gleason, Thomas Forteith, Robbie Harold, Christie Beveridge, Team Pederson/Kaplan, and Jim Maddox.

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 22

Thursday, July 22, 2004

The Puzzler

Julia Alvarez puts a fresh bowl of something on her writing desk each morning. What's in the bowl?

Schedule

Brent Goeres Memorial Gathering
5:00, Bridgman

Madrigalists
5:00, Barn

BLTN
7-9, Barn 1

Gilmore, 9:00

Dinner

Tacos with beef or seitan; Spanish rice; refried beans; cinnamon brown sugar sponge cake with pastry cream frosting for dessert.

Weather

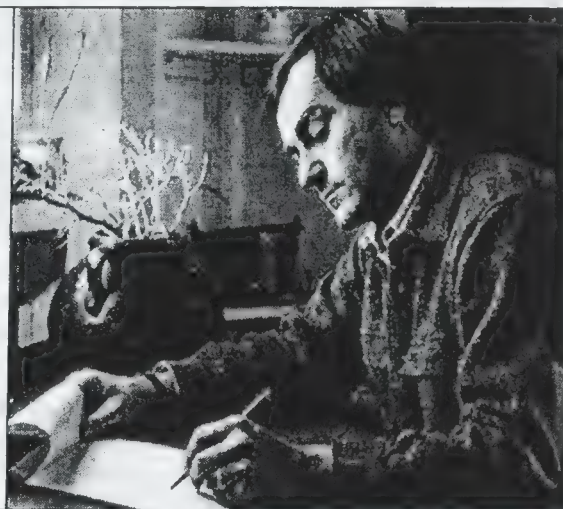
Today:
Isolated storms, 88/67.

Tomorrow:
Not-so-isolated storms, 80/58.

Weekend:
Gradual un-suppressing of desires. Steamy.

Brent Goeres Gathering this Afternoon

Friends of Brent Goeres will gather this afternoon at 5 in the meadow south of Bridgman Cottage to celebrate Brent's life and his special place in the Bread Loaf community. After graduating from Bread Loaf in 1975, Brent returned nearly every summer after that to work in the Library – a commitment to Bread Loaf that endures beyond his passing through the Brent Goeres Scholarship, which since 1996 has provided financial support to twenty students. If you plan to attend this afternoon's gathering, you are welcome to dress with the "sartorial élan" (Jim Maddox's phrase) that so memorably characterized Brent, who always brought a passion for grace and elegance to social affairs. You may also want to bring a thought or story to share among friends.



Coffeehouse Brims with Talent

Thanks to Über-Coordinator Justin Morrill (Coffeehouse, Blue Parlor, Suppressed Desires), last night's Coffeehouse was a thoroughgoing success. Anyone who waited for Guffman last night will be pleased to know that several acts have already been signed to nascent Broadway productions: Doug Wood (*BLTN! The Musical*), Caroline Eisner (*You're Doing Fine, Ocarina! Ocarina, O, C!*) and Jean and Scott (an adaptation of *The Mosquito Coast*).

Annex Abandons Plans to Do "Everything from A to Z" for Suppressed Desires, Settles for "H to O"

Elaborate plans are already afoot for transforming the innocent Barn into "Ye Olde Bawdy House" for this year's Suppressed Desires dance. The Men of Annex have taken charge of the decorations; all you have to do is wear those inner longings on the outside from 9-2 on Saturday night. Less suppressed desires can be easily gratified – help yourself to the "whore d'oeuvres" (Goldfish and potato chips), direct your yearnings for a frothy beverage to barkeeps Ana, Jen, and Jamie, and give your song requests to DJ's Jon, Gary, and Abra.

Start Weekend Right by Getting Lit Up

The Theatre will be running its "dry tech" tomorrow afternoon from 1-6 and needs volunteer "walkers" who would be willing to stand on stage (in the spotlight) so the crew can adjust the intensity and focus of various lighting effects. Contact Faye Christensen via BreadNet or in the Theatre Office if you can spare an hour to help out. You get to be on stage, amid the roars of the crew, the glow of the limelight, the footlights, the overhead lights...ah, it's just sheer magic. And if you want to claim on your resume that this work constituted "assisting professional acting ensemble with positioning and other technical aspects of their performance," Faye promises not to tell.

Black and Cusack Hit the Sack?

The original script of *School of Rock* called for Jack Black and Joan Cusack to fall in love – which would be a bit like pairing Tom Green with Martha Stewart or Courtney Love with Hugh Grant. It just wouldn't work. How the film actually ends I won't tell you – you'll have to check it out for yourselves tomorrow night at 9 in the Barn. And please, for everyone else's enjoyment, please relax your English-teacher sensitivities and resist the urge to correct the spelling of "Led Zeppelin" or "Def Leppard."

She Puts the T on BLTN

A beautiful Marge Droge design will adorn this year's BLTN T-shirt. A copy of the design and an order sheet are posted outside the Dining Hall, where you can place your order through next Wednesday, July 28. BLTN members are also reminded of their weekly meeting from 7-9 tonight in Barn 1.

High-Strung Tense Racket

The proximity of the tennis courts to the Library means that especially vocal players can sometimes be a bit distracting to those inside. Some students, wrestling with whether to include a particularly controversial idea in their essay, have internalized the bold cries of "NO!" from the courts and deprived their work of what would have been a breakthrough interpretation. Please try to limit noise to the absolutely essential line calls and scores, and keep your court-side chatter as quiet as possible as we head into these stressful final weeks.

Will Tougher Question Ice 'Em?

Team Pederson/Kaplan, Christie Beveridge, Marie D'Amato, Thomas Forteith, Robbie Harold, Liz Bedell, and Chris Holmes knew that Lewis Carroll was the answer to yesterday's Puzzler. Today's question might seem harder on the surface, but a whole bunch of clues will probably enable the usual suspects to figure out the right answer.

What Are You Waiting For?

Tickets for *Measure for Measure* are going fast – so be sure to pick yours up at the Front Desk soon. Otherwise, you'll have to Duke it out with all the other ticket-seekers for spare seats right before the performances or just Elbow your way past the usher.

Pour Performance by Seniors and Faculty

On Tuesday night, the Waitstaff gets a deserved night off from their serving duties, as the Seniors and faculty step up to take their place as tray-bearers and coffee-pourers. Seniors should see Jen Welch to sign up to help out, while faculty should talk to Jim Maddox. Of course, the Dining Hall always needs plenty of waiters, bus workers, and a clicker, but the waitstaff's table will also require an experienced sommelier, an official taster (in the event of an attempted poisoning), a between-courses crumb-sweeper, and butlers and maidservants willing to be berated mercilessly. Be sure to tell Jen or Jim if you qualify for any of these specialized roles.

The Waitstaff promises to make no requests of their servers more onerous than the ones they receive every day, but it may be helpful to know that Andy Pederson will only eat cookies that have exactly six raisins or chocolate chips in them, Shannon Hipp prefers that none of the foods on her plate touch each other, and Christian Gregory would really appreciate it if you made sure that the cream for his coffee comes from a cow named Buttercup at the East Middlebury dairy cooperative.

Chew on This

Last night, Jim Maddox dreamt that cannibalism had broken out at the other four Bread Loaf campuses. Now, perhaps this was a mere nightmare brought on by an especially spicy serving of franks and beans, but it might be some sort of extra-sensory indication of the desperation and depravity that have overtaken the other campuses. Some practical questions to consider before any rash action is taken:

- Is there still a vegetarian option available at all meals?
- Given her impending departure for Oxford, should Emily avoid using soaps and lotions that contain Shea butter, lemongrass, kiwi, or anything else that might be misconstrued as an appetizing marinade?
- I know English food doesn't have the best reputation, but what's the excuse everywhere else? Does *salsa fresca* make *everything* taste good?
- Is a "Professor Lecter" listed anywhere in the course catalog?
- Shouldn't this prove once and for all that closing the Snack Bar was a *really bad idea*?

Ponder These Questions as You Plan Top Ten

Will the Women of Bloomfield's recently submitted list of the **Top Ten Little-Known Ways to Get Expelled from Bread Loaf** propel them back into the fray? Can the Men of Annex generate humorous Top Ten ideas while simultaneously planning for Suppressed Desires? Will the Front Desk actually come up with funny answers instead of just mocking everyone else's submissions once the list is published? Will Reginald finally be able to confess his longstanding affection for the bookseller? Does Darlene really wish to reconcile with Sage, or is she trying to inherit Hampton Manor when their step-aunt-in-law dies? Does Stewart suspect Clive of having arranged the "accident" in the particle accelerator? And when will Sabrina find out that her lover is actually half of a pair of conjoined twins? Tune in tomorrow to find out...

The Crumb

Volume 35 Number 23

Friday, July 23, 2004

The Puzzler

What invention, essential to Bread Loafers in its original and updated forms, was patented 175 years ago today?

Schedule

Today
Yoga 5:00, Barn 2

School of Rock
9:00, Barn

Tomorrow
Suppressed
Desires 9-2, Barn

Sunday
Yoga, 3:30-5

Ultimate, 4:00

Blue Parlor, 7:30

Dinner

Trout with lemon
beurre blanc,
basmati rice, and
mixed vegetable
medley or orzo
with peas, pearl
onions, eggplant,
and marinara.
Upside-down
peach cobbler for
dessert.

Weather

Today:
Thunderstorms.
79/58.

Weekend:
Sun and clouds.
Mid-70's.

THE ASSOCIATE

Starring KALLI FEDERHOFER • ANDY PEDERSON • SUSANNE WOFFORD
JAMIE PERRY • ED BROWN • MOLLY WILLIAMS • JUSTIN MORRILL
CHRIS HUTCHINSON • LEO HOTTE • PAUL MULDOON • PHOEBE LEWIS

BETH STANITSKI
and
"THE JIM"
MADDOX



Associate Director Emily Bartels leaves for Oxford today – so Jim Maddox needs a new second-in-command. Today, twelve brave contestants undertake a series of challenges to see which one of them will become...THE ASSOCIATE.

Episode 1: Suppressed Desires

THE TASK: Come up with a catchy and effective advertising scheme for tomorrow's Suppressed Desires dance, to be held in the Barn from 9-2.

One team, led by the stalwart Justin Morrill, comes up with the theme that is eventually chosen, "Ye Olde Bawdy House." The best idea the other team, led by Jamie Perry, can muster is "Waltz Fever." Jim considers firing Jamie for countenancing such an ill-advised scheme, but realizes that Acting Ensemble member Chris Hutchinson wasn't even there for the planning sessions. Chris claims that he had to attend the dress rehearsal of *Measure for Measure* because he has "kind of an important part," but The Jim tells Chris that he's not showing the "can-do" attitude that the next Associate needs. Chris becomes the first contestant to hear the fateful words "YOU'RE FIRED."

Episode 2: School of Rock

THE TASK: To test their marketing savvy, Jim orders the two teams to sell as much SmartFood as possible at *School of Rock* tonight at 9 – a considerable challenge, since most people already know the popcorn is free.

Ed Brown shines in this episode. Using the shrewd sales techniques he honed through years of selling encyclopedias door-to-door – and willing to resort to taunting or the threat of physical violence to "make the sale" – his team raises \$83, which disappears quietly into the Director's wallet at the end of the challenge. The Jim reminds the other team that sometimes you have to get "in your face" with others. "How do you think I keep that rogue Stepto in line?" he tells them. It's a tough choice, but ultimately the kindly but nonconfrontational Kalli gets told, "YOU'RE FIRED."

Episode 3: The "Dry Tech" Rehearsal

THE TASK: Contestants must now help the Theatre Staff – either by volunteering to be an usher for one of the performances (see Faye) or by helping with its Dry Tech today for an hour or so between 1 and 6. The crew tells them where to stand or how to move in order to adjust the intensity and focus of various lighting effects.

This is a tricky one. Does Jim want to see theatrical talent? Declamatory ability? Some meekly obey the crew's requests, but Susanne Wofford reprises her star turn as Queen Elizabeth in *The Beard of Avon*. Some people think she's taking the part too far by ordering that the lighting always be fixed solely on her and asking her teammates to refer to her as "Exalted Ruler of All She Surveys." Bad choice, because after the tech is over Jim tells them all that he's looking for an Associate who knows his or her place in the BL hierarchy – "namely, in perpetual thrall to me. So I just can't have someone who might overshadow me. I hate to say it, but Susanne, YOU'RE FIRED."

Episode 4: The Blue Parlor Reading

THE TASK: Coordinate this Sunday's Blue Parlor reading, which features Kevin Ellis, Jenny Fried, Heather Hamilton, Shelly Jones, and Annie Tsang.

To be honest, this one's a slam-dunk. The contestants don't have to convince anyone to sign up, they certainly don't have to write anything to perform, and there really aren't any logistical difficulties involved. So everyone just sits around swapping stories of Bread Loaf – except for Justin, who's a bit ticked off that while he's already done all the Blue Parlor work, everyone else gets to loll about indolently. Jim tells the contestants afterward that anyone who **minds** doing all the work while he sequesters himself in his office to eat Doritos and surf old *X Files* websites just isn't going to work out. Justin, YOU'RE FIRED.

Episode 5: The Charlie Orr Race

THE TASK: Contestants have to convince as many people as possible to sign up for the Charlie Orr 5K Fun Run. Only those who sign up by 2 p.m. today get a T-shirt. Then they actually have to run the race course!

The remaining eight come up with some inventive strategies to get runners and walkers to sign up and benefit a very worthwhile cause. Paul Muldoon recruits eleven new people by promising to autograph their T-shirts. Phoebe uses her acting skills to get nine more by pretending to cry whenever someone tells her "No, thanks." The race itself isn't even close. Leo wins by a mile, but Jim notes in the final boardroom confrontation that it wasn't exactly fair for him to motor around the 5K course in the Gator. Leo becomes the fifth person to hear "YOU'RE FIRED."

Episode 6: Jonathan Strong's Reading

THE TASK: The Jim wants to see how well his prospective Associates handle working closely with a celebrity. They have to make sure that Jonathan Strong has everything he wants for his reading on Monday.

Celebrities can be difficult to deal with, but Jonathan's requests seem simple enough at first. A pitcher of water within easy reach? Beth takes care of that. A dependable source of lighting? Molly's got it under control. Sensing the opportunity to extract anything he wants from these minions, Jonathan then asks for a steamed lobster with drawn butter (Andy, who knows where the Kitchen keeps the really good stuff, dutifully obliges) and an envelope stuffed with unmarked, nonsequential twenty-dollar bills (which Jamie supplies from the Treman budget). The only contestant to raise the slightest fuss is Paul, who grouches that *he* wasn't provided with any of these perks for his reading. "Oh, go and polish your Pulitzer," The Jim says just before the inevitable **"YOU'RE FIRED."**

Episode 7: The Bike Challenge

THE TASK: Help Christian Clarke get his bike to NYC. It's stuck here, but Christian hopes that someone will be able to haul it to the Big Apple for him sometime between now and August 9. He'll gladly pay you for the assistance.

Proving the maxim that "every strength is also a weakness," Ed Brown quickly volunteers to help Christian out by riding his bike all the way to New York City. When asked how he plans to get back to Bread Loaf, Ed dismissively responds, "I'll figure something out." The Jim always says that "any plan is better than no plan," so when Ed checks in from somewhere around Albany, Jim has a simple greeting: **"YOU'RE FIRED."**

Episode 8: The Cannibalism Issue

THE TASK: When Jim dreamt the other night that cannibalism was rampant at the other four campuses, his first concern was that the powers-that-be at Middlebury were *not* going to like this. The Jim therefore sends the five remaining contestants downtown to defuse the growing administrative concern.

Molly and Phoebe take the sensible course of action and assure President Liebowitz that it was, after all, just a dream. Jamie and Andy take the precautionary step of drawing up a letter of condemnation should the imagined horrors actually prove to be true. Beth uses her Waitstaff experience to propose a strong new initiative, but as Jim tells her in the boardroom, "I really don't think that a list of cost-effective and tasty recipes was the way to go. Beth, **YOU'RE FIRED."**

Episode 9: Senior/Faculty Wait Night

THE TASK: Get as many people as possible to participate in Senior/Faculty Wait Night next Tuesday. Seniors should see Jen Welch to sign up; faculty should talk to Jim Maddox if they're willing to help.

Three of the four contestants dive into this "hands-on" task. Even though he's neither faculty nor senior, Jamie Perry carries a tray or two. Senior Molly Williams urges her classmates to sign up and gets every order at her table exactly right. And Phoebe Lewis refills empty containers at the salad bar with astonishing quickness. Andy, however, does nothing to help – he merely sits at the faculty's usual table and insists that *he* be waited upon. Jim questions him about this unhelpful behavior later in the boardroom; Andy claims that since he *is* a waiter, he deserves the night off. Everyone else seems to think he has a point. But The Jim is unpredictable, and no one ever said he was fair. Andy becomes the ninth person to be told, **"YOU'RE FIRED."**

Episode 10: The Virtual Library

THE TASK: Help Gary Montano and Tina Cohen assemble a Virtual Library by asking each professor and actor to submit five "essential titles" – novels, literary criticism, history, art, photography, plays, poetry, films, philosophy, music, anything – for a list that will be distributed to the senior class as a *bon voyage* gift.

Tensions are mounting and alliances have given way to a Darwinian struggle for survival, as only three candidates remain. The pressure must have gotten to Jamie, because he labors under the misconception that this list was a Top Ten competition. His irreverent submissions, which included *The Beginner's Guide to Flatulence* and *Scarlet Letter II: B is for Babe-a-licious*, do not go over well with The Jim, who regretfully tells him, **"YOU'RE FIRED."**

Episode 11: The Trivia Question

THE TASK: Answer yesterday's trivia question correctly.

O, the cruel simplicity of this last challenge! What *is* in the bowl that Julia Alvarez puts on her writing desk each morning? Too bad, Andy Pederson's already been eliminated, because he knew the answer – *water*. Phoebe sat and thought for a long time, but Molly rushed to the *Crumb* Bum yesterday at lunch and shouted, "Coffee!" Sometimes she who *doesn't* hesitate is lost – and Molly, who fought so long and so hard, has to endure the sound of Jim telling her, **"YOU'RE FIRED."**

Episode 12: The Top Ten Celebration

And so Phoebe Lewis survives the challenge and becomes The Associate during Emily's absence. The three-figure salary pales in comparison to the biggest perk: getting the Number One answer in this week's Top Ten list.

Top Ten-Plus Little-Known Ways to Get Expelled from Bread Loaf

22. Tell Jim Maddox to get his own damn soup. (WOB)
21. Attempt to bribe *Crumb* Bum to boost standing in Top Ten competition. (FS)
20. Reveal Maddox and Bartels' true reason for departing campus this summer: on tour with Justin Timberlake. (NBB)
19. Pay rich uncle to install cell phone tower atop Inn. (WOB)
18. Replace Apple Cellar with Bat Cave. (FS)
17. Establish Croutons' own Fight Club. (MOA)
16. Ask Julia Alvarez to sign your copy of *The House on Mango Street*. (COBE)
15. Use air-conditioned Apple Cellar to keep "beverages" chilled. (LOL)
14. Ask teacher, "No, what does it *really* take to get an A?" (MOA)
13. Wear an apron to breakfast...and only an apron. (WS)
12. Refuse to begin contributions to class discussion with "I am struck by..." or "What I struggle with is..." (LOL)
11. Murmur behind closed doors that you doubt the efficacy of Queen Emily's leadership. (LOL)
10. Stage a dramatic interpretation of David Huddle's singing genitalia poem. (WOB)
9. Insist that the answer to every *Crumb* Puzzler is "Yo Mama." (WS)
8. Propose course on White Male Hegemony. (MOA)
7. Insist that this *is* a co-ed dorm. (RRN)
6. Relocate disco ball to Larch porch. (LOL)
5. While on work-study shift at Liberty Paint Factory, add wrong solvent to Bread Loaf-bound cans of Optic Yellow. (NBB)
4. Tell new students that YOU are Emily Bartels. Start approving credit transfers and IRPs. (WOB)
3. Ask for "help" with "Sex and the City" homework. (LOL)
2. Write to make no difference. (COBE)
1. Attend Suppressed Desires in your birthday suit. (PL)

Updated standings will appear in Monday's *Crumb*.

The Crumbedy of Errors

Volume 85, Number 24

Monday, July 26, 2004

The Puzzler

*What are the
FIVE largest
female roles (by
number of lines)
in Shakespeare?*

Schedule

Madrigalists
4:45, Barn

Yoga
5:00, Barn 2

**Jonathan
Strong Reading**
7:30, Barn

Dinner

Megaminaki with
brown rice or
rotini and ravioli
with spinach
artichoke sauce;
Brussels sprouts;
red velvet cake for
dessert.

Weather

Winds blowing
and cracking
cheeks; cataracts
and hurricanes
spouting till they
have drench'd our
steeple, drown'd
the cocks;
sulphurous and
thought-executing
fires singeing
white heads, and
all shaking
thunder smiting
flat the thick
rotundity o' the
world!

Not quite as bad as
all that, really. Just
some showers
tonight and
tomorrow.

We Recommend Strong Language

HENRY Once more unto the Barn, dear friends, once more;
To hear the reading of Sir Jonathan Strong!
Most nights there's nothing so becomes a man
As modest study in the Library;
But when chimes half-past seven in our ears,
Then imitate the action of an audience;
Stiffen the sinews for Barn's hard-bottom'd chairs,
Disguise your stresses with a soft-favour'd smile;
Then lend your eye attentively to him;
Let pry through the portage of the head
Strong's novels, tales, his wisdom and his wit.
Go, go, you noblest English students
Whose minds are fit for readings of great pitch!
For there is none of you so mean and base,
That wouldst pass by a chance to hear Strong read.
I see you stand like greyhounds in the slips,
Straining upon the start. The reading's nigh:
Follow your spirit, and upon this charge
Cry "Go for Jonathan, Bread Loaf, and Saint George!"

Blood! We'll Have Blood, They Say.

MACBETH Now the Red Cross is
In the worst shape, the worst. For their own good,
All students shall take heed: they are in blood
Supplied so short that, should they get no more,
The situation would become most dire.
LADY MACBETH
They lack the fluid of all natures, blood.
MACBETH The thought I have in head is this: to give
Some blood at Bristol Elementary
Tomorrow afternoon. (aside) Not mine own blood.
But that of Duncan, Banquo, Fleance, Ross,
Macduff's young boy, the Porter, Seyton, all
Who dare to stand against me or in whom
I spy some jot of threat. Ha, ha, ha, ha!
[Enter Henry V, from another play. Slays Macbeth.]
HENRY Now it is done. 'Tis done. And so 'tis well
'Twere done quickly, this assassination.
The Red Cross wanteth only willing blood;
And those who shed their blood with me tomorrow
Shall be my brothers (or my sisters) e'er;
Then you can strip your sleeve, and show your scar,
And say "This wound I had in Bristol's school,"
And studiers at Bread Loaf who don't come
Shall think themselves accursed they were not here.
Besides, they give you juice and cookies too!

Music First, Then Food, Then Love (Maybe)

If music be the opening act, let's meet;
Give me Madrigalists, that, practicing,
Any mistakes may sicken, and so die.
That strain again! until we get it right:
And it comes o'er our ears like the sweet sounds
We'll breathe upon the waiting audience
Before performances of each night's play.
Each just as sweet as was the night before.
At four forty-five come quick and fresh, dear choir,
Even to the minute: for full of work's our hour
To make our songs all so fantastical.

The Call of the House: Please Usher!

Enter LADY MACBETH, with a program
DOCTOR Is't true, that she hath volunteered to usher for the
play?
GENTLEWOMAN Even so. Lo you, here she comes! This is
her very guise; and, upon my life, ready to help us to a seat.
Observe her; stand close.
DOCTOR How came she by that front-row seat?
GENTLEWOMAN Why, 'twas claimed by her: the ushers so
can choose their seats; 'tis Faye's express command.
DOCTOR You see, her eyes are open.
GENTLEWOMAN Ay, but all seats are full.
DOCTOR What is it she does now? Look, how she scans the
crowd.
GENTLEWOMAN It is an accustomed action with her, to
seem thus scanning the crowd: I have known her continue in this
a quarter of an hour.
LADY MACBETH Yet here's a spot.
DOCTOR Hark! she speaks: I will sit down just where she
points.
LADY MACBETH Sit in that spot! Sit, I say!--One: two: why,
then, 'tis space for you.
DOCTOR Do you mark that?
LADY MACBETH The thane of Fife had a wife: where is she
now? I cannot hold her seat forever! No more o' that, my lord, no
more o' that! Here's the dimming of the lights now: enjoy th
show. Oh, oh, oh!

Senior, Faculty Waiters

Make for a Tempestuous Meal

Ye Senior Class, sign up to wait in droves.
And Faculty that every day do mark
Your students' papers, you whose pastime
Is to cause midnight labors and to make
All students break the solemn curfew.
Now give your aid, weak servers though ye be,
To wait upon the Waitstaff Tuesday night!
Your power can bedim the ev'ning sun,
And ring with clamor great the mealtime bell,
And 'twixt the kitchen and the Dining Hall
Take trays of plates: to the small water glass
Can you give spoon and make announcements loud
In your own voice; the long-lined Salad Bar
Can you set up and as needs be refill
Lettuce and hummus: guests at your command
Will get their meals, desserts, and water
By your so potent art. But this rough magic
You must abjure, and, when they have required
Some heavenly coffee, which I am sure they will,
To work the end upon their senses that
That heavenly drink is for, they'll fire your Staff,
Return you to your customary tables,
And at tomorrow morning's breakfast meal
They'll wait on you again.

If Parting Is Such Sweet Sorrow...

JULIET Hist! Romeo, hist!

ROMEO It is my soul that calls upon my name:
How silver-sweet sound lovers' tongues by night,
Like softest music to attending ears!

I'll write of it upon my **evaluation form**

And then return it to Elaine post-haste!

JULIET 'Tis almost autumn; I would have thee gone:

And yet no further than for ten short months.

When you can come to Bread Loaf once again.

ROMEO I would I could.

JULIET Sweet, so would I:

But you must **re-apply; the forms are in the Office.**

ROMEO You give me too scant credit, lovely one.

Forget an obligation such as this?

JULIET Dost thou need credit? Ay, I'll give it thee;

For **transcript request forms** are in the Office too,

Shouldst thou need confirmation of thy work.

ROMEO Good night, good night! parting is such sweet sorrow,
But I'll return the forms before tomorrow.

Strumpets Leave Him Stumpèd

ANGELO What's this, what's this? Who be these women five?

Of all the female characters, who speaks most?

Ha!

Not Isabella, no, not lines enough:

But it is I who shall the answer find

That cannot be too hard. O, fie, fie, fie!

What dost thou, or what art thou, Angelo?

Dost thou desire her foully for those things

That make her good? O, let the answer come!

Mark Elberfeld didst Friday's question get,

And Pederson's missed few all summer long.

Then why do I an answer fail to make?

Where is my knowledge gone? What is't I dream on?

A cunning editor, that, to make it tough,

Gives no clues whatsoe'er! Never was I stumpèd,

By double crostics, Jumbles, trivia,

In all my puzzling years; but now this question

Subdues me quite.

Midsummer's Nice Finish for Runners

OBERON Fetch me that flower, and be thou here again

Ere the leviathan can swim a league.

PUCK I'll put a girdle round about the earth

In forty minutes.

OBERON Not good enough, dear Puck, for yesterday

Did **Martha Perkins** faster than that run;

She **won the Goshen Gallop**; right behind

Was **Tara Boland**, first among her age.

PUCK Well done, but though they may be fast,

In durance, I vow, I outlast them all.

For I grow weary but 'pon sorest strains.

OBERON Not so! It is not so, for **Steve Garnett**

The Ironman Triathlon finishèd

In thirteen hours, faster far than thee.

Him have I hired as my new errand-boy.

PUCK But master, I—

OBERON No buts. I'm sorry, Puck.

I have to let you go. You're fired. Goodbye. *Exit.*

PUCK Alas, alack, this Puck has been out-Pucked

By runners swift; I guess I'm just plain....

Sonnet Number Ten

The expense of effort in a Top Ten List

Is wit in action; and till action, wit

Is hurtful, dang'rous, bawdy, full of jest,

Savage, extreme, rude, cruel, I'll admit;

But when directed towards the **Top Ten Things**

The Bookstore Sells "Under the Counter," then

The naughty wit that such suggestion brings

Becomes acceptable for you to pen.

What items might they not want to display?

Illicit things that Bread Loafers desire?

Whate'er your thoughts, no dorm should long delay

To move within the standings ever higher.

All this the world well knows; yet none knows well

To stop the Annex Men from doing swell.

Suppressed Impresses Heiress

NERISSA But what warmth is there in your remembrance towards any
of those costumed revelers that on Saturday did come?

PORTIA I pray thee, over-name them; and as thou namest them, I will
describe them; and, according to my description, level at my
appreciation.

NERISSA First, there is the Waiter Pederson.

PORTIA By my troth, I knew the lad was graced with a good sole.

But I am much afeard my lady his mother played false with a cobbler.

NERISSA Then there is one Shelly's Hester Prynne.

PORTIA Alas, poor babe-to-be, that hath been branded fore its birth
with that alpha mark!

NERISSA How say you by the photo booth, Monsieur Sherwin?

PORTIA Most miraculous, indeed, for I didst but draw the curtain and
step inside his chamber, when comes to my eyes a blinding light. Tarry
a minute, says he, and through a partition in the wall comes forth the
very copy of myself! 'Tis some strange work, methinks, but if this be
magic, let it be an art as lawful as eating!

NERISSA What say you, then, to Guerry, the young lad of Theatre?

PORTIA You know I say nothing to him, for he understands not me,
nor I him: he hath neither Latin, French, nor Italian, and you will come
into the court and swear that I have a poor pennyworth in the tongue of
flies and wings and lighting schemes. How oddly was he suited! I think
he bought his bonnet of tin cans in Barn East, for the o'er-flowing
Recycling Bin therein was he.

NERISSA What think you of Charles Byrne?

PORTIA Surely all men can not be equal created, for he possesseth
such a great quantity of height more than his fellow man! But he did
declare a "new birth of funk-dom," the which was greatly approved by
his fellow dancers.

NERISSA How like you waitress Kelley's Sydney Bristow?

PORTIA A costume so complete, I did not recognize 'twas Lea
beneath the wig of pink.

NERISSA Do you not remember, lady, an Annexian, a scholar and a
soldier, that came hither in company of the crowd of decorators?

PORTIA Yes, yes, it was Christian Gregory, as I think, he was so
called.

NERISSA True, madam: he, of all the men that ever my foolish eyes
looked upon, was the best deserving a fair praise. For it was he who
summoned forth the signs, the drawings, all the trappings that with the
which the Barn became a bawdy house; 'twas he who decreed that the
following people be thanked for their assistaunce: Justin, John W., Tara,
Ana, Jamie, Jen, Kevin W., Mark E., Jim S., Aurora, Nicole, Pamela,
and the DJ's.

PORTIA What fun lies in disguise! How one can pleasantly deceive
with but the putting-on of a few trappings! Which gives me an idea,
Nerissa. If I put on a wig, and judge's robes....

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 25

Tuesday, July 27, 2004

The Puzzler

Which battle, famously dramatized in a work of literature, actually took place 950 years ago today?

Schedule

Senior/Faculty Wait Night
5:00 Staff Meets
6:00 Dinner

John Elder Class Reading
7:30, Barn A

Measure for Measure Dress Rehearsal
7:30/9, Theatre

Sexual Orientation Disc. Group
9:00, Blue Parlor

Dinner

Chicken burritos or bean burritos with tortilla chips and all the fixings; jelly roll for dessert.

Weather

Today:
Showers, 71/61.

Tomorrow:
Scattered thunderstorms, 74/63.

Thursday:
Finally...sun and clouds, 83/63.

I'd Like Dessert, Coffee, and an Extension

All seniors and faculty who signed up to wait tables for tonight's Waitstaff Tribute Dinner should arrive at the Dining Hall at 5:00 to learn the ropes¹ and then grab an early bite. Any faculty and seniors who forgot to officially volunteer and now quail at the prospect of receiving withering glances from their serving brethren and sisthrens², take heart. Just show up at 5, and Lea will find something for you to do.

¹ Including how to tie your apron strings in a really neat knot that'll never come undone.

² OK, OK, not really a word. But it should be.

They Make It Look Natural

If you've grown disenchanted with Nature at the recent stretch of iffy weather, renew your faith in the great outdoors by going to hear members of John Elder's Writing the Watershed¹ class share a reading of their session's work tonight at 7:30 in Barn A. All are invited.

¹ The class writes *about* the watershed, not *on* it, just in case anyone worried that the natural splendor of the Vermont woods has been desecrated by a horde of John Elder-led spray-paint artistes.

Orientation Congregation Information

Jonathan Strong reports that the sexual orientation discussion group will meet again tonight at 9 in the Blue Parlor. Tonight, they will be joined by Jim Maddox, who has kindly accepted an invitation to join the conversation about life at Bread Loaf. All interested students are welcome to attend.

Picture This

If you ordered any of the many photos Ed Brown took back at the beginning of the summer,¹ now's the time to pick them up at the Front Desk.

¹ All-school, faculty, staff, BLTN, Waitstaff, Senior Class, left-handed people, the Pep Club, JV Ultimate Frisbee, Most Likely to Join the Canon, Homecoming Dance.

Student Seeks Dramatic Licenses

Do you have a Tahoe from California, a Montero from Montana, or a Corolla from Carolina? Elizabeth Kriynovich is putting together a photographic essay which involves including cars from as many different states as possible in her shots. If you're willing to "pose" your car sometime between now and the end of the summer, let Elizabeth know.

¹ This is a family publication. Your car will be photographed fully clothed, and minor dents and rust spots will be airbrushed out only upon your specific request.

Application Supplication

We really, really want you to come back next year, so take heed: Reapplication forms are available outside the Bread Loaf office, as are official transcript requests. Everyone who plans to attend any of the Bread Loaf campuses¹ in 2005 must complete a reapplication form², but only those students who need an official transcript (in addition to grade reports, which everyone will automatically receive) should fill out a transcript request.

Also, please remember to return evaluation forms for your two courses³ and for the Bread Loaf experience in general before you leave for the summer. These the Directors read assiduously out of a sincere desire to make the next Bread Loaf summer even better than this one.

¹ Borneo, Australia, Africa, Marquesas, Thailand, Amazon, Pearl Islands, Vanuatu. No, wait – those are Survivor locations.

² On which you'll be asked simple questions such as "What campus do you plan to attend?," "What is your home address?," and "Explain the sociopolitical ramifications of the reconciliation scenes in Shakespeare's late plays."

³ Complaints regarding your professors' fashion sense are less than helpful and generally futile.

Play Features More Suppressed Desires

Faye Christensen and the cast of *Measure for Measure* invite everyone to attend tonight's final dress rehearsal.¹ Act I begins at 7:30 and runs about eighty minutes; Act II begins around 9:00 and runs about an hour. Their only request is that you not arrive or depart in the middle of either act.²

¹ Great opportunity to ruin everyone else's fun by telling them all the surprises – including the car chase and just how the Duke finds out the secret code to disarm the bomb.

² Now that they think about it, the cast also requests that you refrain from heckling, throwing spitballs, and shouting out helpful advice as Claudio and Isabella debate which is more valuable – her chastity or his life.

Madrigalists Take Note

Everyone who plans to sing with the Madrigalists during their pre-play performances tomorrow through Sunday **must** attend a rehearsal tomorrow from 5-6 in the Barn.¹

¹ We need to practice version of "Thong Song."

Just Sew Stories

Meghan Scheck seeks the skills of a tailor competent enough to hem a pair of pants. She offers \$15 for the service. If you feel sew-inclined¹, e-mail Meghan or drop her a note in box 2319.²

¹ Bad pun. Sew sorry. Actually, not. Sew sue me.

² You'll have to drop the note in the Campus Mail box if you don't know the exact combination to box 2319, however.

He Will Not Mind You Stopping There

What better way to wrap up the summer than by congregating once more at the Homer Noble Farm and reading the poetry of Bread Loaf's patron saint, Robert Frost?¹ Weather permitting, that's just what we'll do next Monday evening at 10:00 or so. Your host is Paul Muldoon, who has been kind enough to invite us to his summer homestead once again.² Bring a favorite poem or two, a flashlight,³ something to sit on, and revel once more in the simple splendors of that small field under a Vermont sky.

¹ Well, how about joining hands after the last class and singing "Kumbaya"? Or just a large wad of cash tucked in with your diploma?

² The spirit of Robert Frost has never visibly objected to our presence, although one summer a ghostly Frost-like apparition shook his jowls and slouched off in the direction of Ripton.

³ Because it'll be dark.

Where It's OK for Grammarians to Run On

If you signed up for the Charlie Orr race¹ (this Saturday, 9:30 a.m.) but haven't yet paid the \$5 for your T-shirt,² please do so at the Front Desk as soon as possible.

¹ For some it's a race. For others it's a pleasant walk. If you treat it as a competitive event, the Crumb advises you **not** to stop along the Frost Trail section of the course to read the poems. You can do that some other time.

² You cheapskate.

Oh, the Places You Want to Go But Can't!

As painful as it¹ might be, it's time to start thinking about leaving Bread Loaf in a week or so. Some of you will undoubtedly need rides to Boston or Burlington or New York or Tucson; while this last request seems a bit excessive², there are usually any number of folks happy to give you a lift to the other convenient spots. On Friday the Crumb will publish a list of everyone who needs transportation and the places they'd like to go. If you're looking for a ride, let Jon Freeman know, and he'll add your name to the master list.

¹ "It" here refers not to that unsightly boil or to the strained quadriceps you suffered during an unusually exuberant conga line at *Suppressed Desires*, but to the necessary contemplation that summer's end is fast approaching. If you had read on instead of skipping right to the footnote, the pronoun's referent would have become clear.

² You'd probably have to pay for half the gas. More, if your driver lived in Knoxville or Grand Rapids or Sitka and didn't mind the slight detour on the way home.

Mister UPS Opens On-Campus Franchise

The Front Desk will coordinate all UPS shipments next week, weighing, billing, and shipping¹ any packages you care to bring them by next Thursday morning.²

¹ "Shipping" entails sending packed items to your home address. You may have forgotten that Bread Loaf is not your home. You live elsewhere (perhaps you have family members, pets, or a "television" there? Ringing any bells?), and it is to that place that packages should be sent.

² You'll have to pack, tape, and address the boxes yourself. What, does Ed look like your mother?

Ed Brown Taking It All Off

Well, not *everything*, thankfully. He'll just attempt to reduce the Bookstore's stock by reducing prices on nearly everything by 20%¹ next week. Special sale hours will be Monday-Wednesday, 8:30-12:30.

Sale prices do not apply to phone cards, magazines, or contraband items listed on this week's Top Ten List.

¹ For the math-impaired, use this handy chart:

Regular Price	Sale Price
\$1.00	\$.80
\$5.00	\$4.00
\$6.95	more than you'd think
\$12.95	probably somewhere around \$10
\$22.00	Oh, it's a good deal. Just buy it already.
\$76.45	Why are you buying <i>The Riverside Chaucer</i> for pleasure reading? You sick, sick thing.

Elicit Illicit Lists

The Bookstore's "official" stock consists of course texts, health supplies, Bread Loaf apparel, and snacks. You may have noticed that some items¹ appear to have nonexistent appeal; these products merely serve to heighten the illusion of an honest concern while concealing a bustling black market. If the person behind the counter wink conspicuously while asking you, "Would you like *anything else* with that?" nod surreptitiously to see the store's supply of hard-to-obtain illicit, or potentially embarrassing merchandise. Then report any such goods for Friday's list of the **Top Ten Items Sold Under the Counter in the Bookstore**.

¹ Such as slide rules, astrolabes, and "On!" insect attractant.

What Would Move You to Give Right Answer?

Maybe everyone's just buried under a ton of work. Maybe should make the questions easier and easier as the summer progresses.¹ Whatever the reason, fewer and fewer people are chiming in with answers to the Puzzlers. The five female roles in Shakespeare with the largest number of lines are (in order) Rosalind, Cleopatra, Portia, Imogen, and Juliet. Only alum Robbie Harold, blissfully unburdened with considerations of "phenomenology" or "aesthetics" or "postcolonialism," correctly named all five. Arthur Little, Elizabeth Kriynovich², Elizabeth Bunch, and Stephen Berenson share second place, having each gotten two right.

Perhaps today's question will inspire some educated guesses. Use process of elimination to narrow the number of likely answers.³

¹ Examples: In what Shakespearean play does the character Othello appear? How many characters in *Villette* own iPods?

² Whose name appears **twice** in today's Crumb and receives footnote #2 here. Coincidence? I think not...

³ Hint: the battle in question does not appear in the writings of Thoreau, Jack Kerouac, or Jane Austen.

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 26

Wednesday, July 28, 2004

The Puzzler

Only four characters in Shakespeare have more lines than the Duke in Measure for Measure. Can you name them?

Schedule

Director's Reception
5:00, Lawn/Porch

Yoga 5:00, Barn 2

Madrigalists Rehearsal
5:00, Barn

Ultimate
7:00, Field

Madrigalists Performance
7:30, Lawn/Porch

Measure for Measure
8:00, Theatre

Dinner

Chicken stir-fry or vegetarian stir-fry with hoisin sauce.
Ice cream, cookies, brownies for dessert.

Weather

Today:
Rain, 72/62.

Tomorrow:
Rain only in the morning, 83/63.

Friday:
Rain not at all!
88/67.

"O place and greatness!": Measure Opens Tonight

The place is, of course, the Burgess Meredith Little Theatre, and the greatness lies within, where tonight at 8 the Acting Ensemble's spectacular production of *Measure for Measure* kicks off its five-night run. If you don't have tickets but suddenly get the urge to attend tonight's production, just linger outside the Theatre right before 8; if there are unfilled seats, they'll be given away on a first-come, first-served basis to those waiting outside.

Those not attending tonight's production should know that when the candles outside the Theatre are lit, the production is in progress. Please tread lightly by during those times, so as not to disturb the audience and performers.

"...Make me know the nature of their crimes, that I may minister to them accordingly..."

is what one character wishes in John Sayles' *Lone Star*, the final film showing this summer at the Loews Barn Uni-Plex Friday Film Fest. When a skeleton with a badge is unearthed in a Texas town still under the sway of the previous sheriff (Matthew McConaughey), his son the current sheriff (Cooper) must puzzle out the truth of a crime about which no one wants to talk. The deliberateness with which the suspense unfolds makes *Lone Star* the type of rare intelligent thriller that gets overlooked in an age when directors labor under the assumption that a film's worth increases in direct proportion to the number of fiery explosions and amount of CGI acrobatics. Showtime, as always, is at 9:00, and free SmartFood will again be dispensed.

"...I made my promise upon the heavy middle of the night..."

...which is when Saturday's Barn dance will take place – from 11 to 1 this week, a change of time made out of consideration for the play. (The possibility of linking the dance's playlist to the play's action – "I Wanna Sex You Up" over Angelo's proposal to Isabella, "You're No Good" over the final series of accusations – was eventually dismissed as difficult to coordinate and potentially distracting.) Because there's only half the usual time in which to release the accumulated stress of the past week, the dance moves this weekend might be doubly energetic and unforgettable. We're even bringing in a ringer – former professional DJ Gene Campbell will be in charge of the tunes.

"...To steal from the state..."

and attend Bread Loaf's New Mexico campus is no doubt the dream of many a Bread Loaf student. If you're one of the ones planning to head southwestward next summer, you'll be interested in attending an informational meeting in Barn 1 tomorrow at 5:00. Similar meetings for the other three campuses will follow on Friday (Alaska), Monday (Oxford), and Tuesday (Guadalajara).

"Lead forth and bring you back in happiness..."

...but don't leave before you've filled out the right forms. Everyone needs to fill out a Departure Slip (on the bottom of this page) and return it to the Front Desk, so Commencement guests can be lodged in vacant rooms. Everyone should also remember to jot down some thoughts about their summer's experiences on their evaluation forms. If you're planning to return to Bread Loaf in 2005, grab a reapplication form from outside the Bread Loaf office and return that as well before you depart.

"Music oft hath such a charm To make bad good."

The Bread Loaf Madrigalists will perform a short set of songs tonight (and every night of *Measure's* run) at 7:30. In pleasant weather, the concerts will be just outside the Theatre on the East Lawn, but in the event of rain (which seems likely tonight), they'll sing on the Blue Parlor side of the Inn porch.

Members of the Madrigalists are reminded that there is a **very** important rehearsal this afternoon from 5-6 in the Barn. After dinner, we'll congregate there once again to warm up for the 7:30 show.

"I for a while will leave you..."

Your name: _____

Your dorm and room number: _____

Your planned departure date: _____

"Put them in secret holds..."

...releasing stress and getting a good workout through a solid hour of yoga this afternoon in Barn 2. Actually, there's nothing secret about the positions they'll hold; anyone's welcome to attend, regardless of how new to the art you may be.

"eating and drinking be put down..."

...and put down in great quantities on the west porch of the Inn to sate the appetites and slake the thirsts of those fortunate enough to have been invited to today's Director's Reception. The change of location is due to the lousy forecast; if the weather improves, the proceedings might return to their usual location on the West Lawn.

"Thy best of rest is sleep..."

...says Jim Maddox, who reminds late-night porch-haunters that especially during these stressful last days of the session, Bread Loaf's 11 p.m. noise curfew must be honored. Please adjourn to the Barn after that hour to continue your revelry as long into the night as you wish.

"I prithee, supply me with the habit."

...and now that the Bread Loaf T-shirts have arrived, Jamie can accommodate such requests. He'll be waiting at lunch with the fresh shipment and will dispense them to anyone who ordered one and arrives bearing the requisite \$15.

"I'll be your tapster still. Courage, there will be pity taken on you."

...if you were worrying whether Bread Loaf would continue to feed you after classes end. The answer is "sure" – but for the Commencement Banquet, anyone who's not a senior or the guest of a senior **must** let the Front Desk know that they'd like to attend that meal. Seating tends to be very tight for this final dinner, so please tell Victoria as soon as possible that you want a place reserved for you.

"Is it not strange? Nay, it is ten times strange."

...and this week's Top Ten list will be more than ten times strange if the number of witty responses swells well beyond that number. Don't forget to submit your **Top Ten Items Sold Under the Counter at the Bookstore** to Jon Freeman by 11 a.m. on Friday for inclusion in that day's *Crumb*.

"One that, above all other strifes, contended especially to know..."

...just what famous literary battle was fought on July 27, 1054. Turns out that it was the battle of Dunsinane, Macbeth's Last Stand. Thomas Forteith, Team Pederson/Kaplan, and Robbie Harold knew the right answer. And the *Crumb* sincerely regrets lamenting the paucity of respondents, as yesterday's question elicited a flood of facetious responses. Some of the battles that most assuredly did **not** take place in 1054: the Battle of the Bulge, the Battle for the Shire, Wrestlemania I, and (even more inexplicably) the Atkins Diet.

If you think you know the four Shakesperean roles with the largest number of lines, drop a note to the *Crumb* Bum via campus mail or BreadNet before tomorrow morning.

THE CRUMBUDGEON

Volume 85, Number 27

Thursday, July 29, 2004

The Puzzler

Whom did I.A. Richards call "a nice, acrid, savage, pathetic old chap"?

Schedule

New Mexico Meeting
5:00, Barn 1

BLTN
7:00-9:00, Barn 1

Madrigalists Performance
7:30, East Lawn

Measure for Measure
8:00, Theatre

Gilmore
After the play

Dinner

Fettuccini with clam sauce or BBQ riblets; butternut squash; pumpkin pie for dessert.

Weather

The forecast says sunny today and thunderstorms this weekend, but who knows? It's not like it's ever been right or anything, and you'll still have to change clothes three times a day. Just look out a window, for crying out loud.

About the Crumbudgeon

Oh, you think you're the only one with work to do? Let me tell you something, smart guy. You have to write, what, four papers this summer? Cry me a river. I have to write a paper *every freakin' day*. And it's beginning to get to me. You think you're tense and irritable? Welcome to my world, bub. The *Crumbudgeon* is where I can let loose with a summer's accumulated gripes, grouses, and grievances. So sit down, shut up, and listen already.

Shakespeare: Big Cheater

So apparently, Shakespeare got away with just *making up* words whenever he saw fit. Well, who made him King of the English Language? Just you try that on your next paper – call Thomas Hardy's setting "thracynitudinous" or Rich's poetry "a bit vibulish." See what your professor thinks. I call it a big whopping double standard. Anyway, if you were too busy to attend Opening Night of *Measure for Measure* last night (or maybe you just *didn't get invited* – ha, ha!), you're lucky it's up again tonight at 8. And would it kill you to show up a little early to hear the Madrigalists sing at 7:30?

Also, I don't know why Faye's letting people in who don't have tickets. I mean, it was only announced about twelve times that you have to go to the Front Desk to pick them up, and now they're letting just anyone in. Faye says that all you have to do is just show up at 8 and there'll most likely be a seat for you. Frankly, I doubt it, after everyone's raving about how wonderful the show was on Opening Night. Even if you get a seat, it'll probably be way back in the *fifth row*, and by the time you reach the intermission refreshment table, all the cookies will be gone. Don't say you didn't ask for it.

What, Vermont Isn't Pretty Enough?

After all this place has done for you, what kind of thanks do we get? A big, fat "See ya" as you head out the door to New Mexico, or Alaska, or one of those other godforsaken places where I hear they have Bread Loaf campuses. Jim's leading an informational meeting about the New Mexico campus today at 5 in Barn 1, and a similar one for Alaska tomorrow at the same time. Jim'll brag about how there are no mosquitoes in New Mexico. But ask him about rattlesnakes in the bathtub. And that hot coffee's gonna taste *real* good when it's 93 degrees outside. And don't get me started about Alaska, where you probably have to room with a bear, or Grizzly Adams, or something like that. Anyway, if you're still interested for some reason, show up this afternoon.

Gilmore: So Conveniently Located

Seems like I have two ways to get up to Gilmore – walk up and get eaten alive by blackflies and mosquitoes, or ride up and do a number on my car's suspension and undercarriage. Heck of a choice. And once I'm up there, I'll sit down by the fire just as the wind shifts and blows smoke and sparks in what's left of my hair. Listen to some professor drone on and on through some story. Look, if I wanted to hear professors tell long-winded stories, I'd enroll in the M.Litt. program already. Oh, it's a *play* tonight, is it? Not the usual reading. Great. *How* original – they've decided to put on a *play* this week. Wonder how *that* idea crept into some Gilmore guy's chick-pea of a brain.

And after all the *real generous* donations they've been getting recently, they'll probably put out a ten-pack of Capri Sun juice boxes and tell everyone, "That's it, folks." Go if you want after the play (at 11 or so), but don't say I didn't tell you so if you have a miserable time.

You Call That a Dance?

So you only have a two-hour dance this weekend because of the play. Well, boo-hoo. Let me tell you something. Back when I started at Bread Loaf, we had five minutes of music each weekend, and it was on wax cylinders and it was always "I Dream of Jeannie with the Light Brown Hair" and "Surrey with a Fringe on Top," and let's see you try to dance to *those*. You're getting two hours of music from Gene Campbell – you can be sure we never used to have a former *professional* DJ like him at the mixing board, no sirree – and you better act like you *like* it. And I don't even *want* to know about the new dances you young folks are doing these days – the Disembowelment, or the Beast with Two Backs, or some such filth. What we need are some good Catholic school nuns to step between dancers who are getting a little too cozy, if you know what I mean, and say, "Leave room for the Holy Ghost, dears." Then they could whack you with a ruler if you did it again. *That* I'd like to see.

Departure Slip – Return to the Front Desk

Your name: _____

Your dorm and room number: _____

Your planned departure date: _____

Lone Star Probably Describes the Barren Cast

The only reason I can think of for the Director's Assistants to have chosen *Lone Star* as this week's film is that the Matthew McConaughey Preservation League paid them to inflict his acting – if you can call it that – upon an unsuspecting audience. Chris Cooper and Francis McDormand probably sat around during shooting thinking, "This guy gets \$3 million a film?" Somehow *Lone Star* manages to be pretty decent, even (according to Jonathan Freedman) eliciting something better from McConaughey than his usual walking catastrophe of a performance. So if you've got nothing better to do, I guess you could slouch over to the Barn at 9 tomorrow.

So Now We're Stealing Things. Oh, That's Nice.

Apparently Rob Verger's gone and lost his blue and gray North Face rain jacket – or else it was *stolen* by some miscreant. Probably the latter, I'm guessing, as basic ethics apparently go out the window as the summer progresses. I suppose your soul wouldn't be moved at the thought of Rob's having gone jacket-less for these past few rainy days – if he gets pneumonia or something, it's not as if you have a shred of a conscience left to generate the slightest twinge of remorse. If the image of Rob hopefully peering into the Lost and Found day after day is enough to shake your heart of stone into returning the jacket, you can leave it at the Front Desk.

Good Riddance

The Bookstore wants to get rid of their stock, so just about everything will be 20% off next week. Just to throw you off, they're changing the hours, too – 8:30-12:30 M-W, 9-12 Th-F. Too bad the cash register automatically figures out the proper discount, because it used to be fun watching Ed try to do the math in his head.

Get Lost

What? You have to leave? Oh. Okay, I guess. No, I understand. No, *really*, it's OK. How are you getting to the airport or the train station? You know that Vermont Transit will set up a ride share for you – you call them. Or maybe you could tell the *Crumb* Bum and he'll publish a list of everyone seeking rides tomorrow. Well, I'm just trying to help. No, I am *not* trying to run your life for you. Go on. Really. Yes, I mean it. I'll be fine. I'll just stay here and read over the departure slip you filled out. It'll remind me of you. But I'll be *fine*. No, it won't get cold up here in the winter. I don't feel the cold. I'll just throw all the unwanted leftover *Crumbs* on the fire and hope that I can stay warm that way. I understand. You have a busy life to lead, and you don't want me in the way. But would it be so hard to *write* every once in a while?

How About Picking Up a Little Fashion Sense?

Take your sweet, precious, valuable time in paying Jamie \$15 if you ordered a Bread Loaf T-shirt. Not that you would have noticed, but he *was* at lunch yesterday handing them out. And there were times when a promise meant something, but apparently those days are gone, as a whole bunch of people who said they'd buy one just haven't shown up. He'll be at lunch again today, probably sitting by a pile of unpurchased T-shirts, looking forlorn as his naïve assumption that people were honest and caring shatters into a thousand pieces.

To All Skinflints, Cheapskates, Scrooges

In any other place where people take your order, bring your food, pour your coffee, ask if you'd like anything else, and wish you a happy day, you'd probably leave "a little something" on the table for their service. And why should Bread Loaf be any different? Those waiters slaved and slaved for you, and what thanks do they get? Nothing. Not a thing. At least until now, when the Front Desk *finally* puts up a tip envelope for the few generous souls round here who feel like giving the waiters and housekeepers something extra for their efforts. Don't you *dare* try to slink away from Bread Loaf without donating to both of these funds, you ungrateful wretch. I'll have your reapplication form red-flagged so fast you won't know what hit you when you get assigned to the Greenland campus next year. And I'm not talking about chipping in a few singles, either. You had seven weeks of meals here, buddy-boy, and someone cleaned your bathrooms and vacuumed your halls almost every day, so do the math and cough up a nice-sized donation already.

I Know Species of Moss Smarter Than You

If I asked you why you didn't send in a response to yesterday's trivia question, you'd probably stammer something like, "Yeah, I, um, didn't have time, you know? Cuz I'm, uh, really busy?" Give me a break. You didn't answer it because you *didn't know* what the four biggest roles in Shakespeare were. And the answers were really tricky, hoo-boy. First, there's a guy named Hamlet. Heard of him? Then Richard III, then Iago, and then Othello. All really obscure characters from plays that no one's ever read. Oh, sorry – I assumed you *could* read. Now I see why the question was so difficult. As punishment, you have to answer today's question without the help of a single clue. Tough luck.

Top Ten? You'll Get Nothing and Like It

Look, it doesn't matter to me whether or not we have a Top Ten list in tomorrow's *Crumb*. I get enough laughs correcting the twisted syntax and egregious misspellings in the news items that get submitted to my mailbox. But if you can spare half an hour in your *busy, busy* schedule to come up with some harebrained ideas for the **Top Ten Items the Bookstore Sells Under the Counter**, I'll separate the few entries with any potential from the rest of the incoherent ramblings that you think pass for wit, rework them into something approximating humor, and publish 'em in the paper tomorrow.

And don't think for a second that I plan to let *you* have all the Top Ten glory. Sure, I excuse myself from the weekly competition, mostly because outwitting the bunch of you is about as difficult as shooting fish in a barrel, but today's *my* day. So get a load of **this**:

Top Ten Reasons Why You Stink

10. You just do. (CB)
9. Maybe you've been rolling in all of those "groundbreaking" final essay ideas of yours. (CB)
8. Oh, I'm sorry. Did I say "you stink"? What I meant to say was...no, I changed my mind. You still stink. (CB)
7. You did *all* the required reading before you got here, you teacher's pet, you. (CB)
6. The fact that I have to tell you why is reason enough. (CB)
5. I saw you cross that silverware the other day at lunch when I was heading toward your table. Don't think I didn't notice. (CB)
4. Because you're a big fat meanie. (CB)
3. Forswearing deodorant is not postmodern. (CB)
2. Because anyone who keeps reading reasons they stink must really, really stink. (CB)
1. Because I said so. (CB)

Today's score: Crumb Bum (CB) 10. Everyone else (EE) utterly worthless.

☺ Camp Crumb Newsletter ☺

A place where friends like you and me try to be the best that they can be, and though years may pass, forever we... will remember Bread Loaf Camp!

Volume 85, Number 28

Friday, July 30, 2004

The Puzzler

What is the significance of the prison uniform #'s assigned to Pompey and Claudio in the production of Measure for Measure?

Schedule

Friday

Alaska Meeting
5:00, Barn 1

Madrigalists 7:30
Measure 8:00
Lone Star 9:00

Saturday

Orr Run 9:30
Madrigalists 7:30
Measure 8:00
Mini-Dance 11-1

Sunday

Scramble 11:30
Ultimate 4:00
Blue Parlor 7:30
Madrigalists 7:30
Measure 8:00

Dinner

Blackened trout or
veggie lasagna;
carrots and pearl
onions, and wait
and see for
dessert.

Weather

Keep your fingers
crossed for Mr.
Sun...because Mr.
Storm looks like
he's on his way!!!
Highs around 83.

Howdy, Campers! Have a Sunshiney Day!!!

I don't know about you, but that grouchy Crumbudgeon just **had** to go! Camp Bread Loaf is Smile Central, not Grumpy Junction! So if everyone's ready for a BIG DAY of fun activities, let's get a move on! Please note that there will be Open Swim at 4:30, followed by All-Campus Capture the Flag at 7:15. (The Theatre is **OFF LIMITS** for tonight's game.) And today's Wacky Word is "**serendipitous**" – if Lea uses it in her lunchtime or dinnertime announcements, everyone has to stand up and do the Magic Moose Dance!!!

Big Movie on the BIG Barn Screen

You campers know that Friday night is Movie Night here at Bread Loaf, and we have a double-super special film for you tonight. It's called *Lone Star*, and it's set – yup, you guessed it! – in Texas. **Warning: Don't read on if you get the heebie-jeebies easily!** The story really starts when some people find an old skeleton (Eek!) with a mysterious badge...they could've called it "The Mystery of the Skeleton with the Badge," actually! It'll be lots of fun, you get to "stuff your face" with popcorn, and you can tell your cabinmates about it during next week's Ghost Story Night 'round the campfire!

Good, Clean Fun Saturday Night

Listen up, everyone, because this is **REALLY IMPORTANT**. First of all, Camp Director Jim reminds you that you **just can't** bring your own alcohol to the Barn Dances. Remember the Bread Loaf slogan: Only **Bad Bread Buddies Bring Banned Beer!**

Now that we've gotten that out of the way, everyone should have fun hitting the dance floor from 11-1 on Saturday night. Yes, "lights out" time has been **extended** until 1 that night, just this once! Gene Campbell will play all sorts of nifty tunes to keep you "rockin' and rollin'," and you can do the "Alley Cat," the "Y.M.C.A.," and maybe even the "Electric Slide"! As always, we'll end the dance by joining hands in a big circle and singing the camp song.

Big Golf Tournament on Sunday!

There are lots of fun clubs at Camp Bread Loaf, but only one club actually **uses** clubs! That's right – it's the Golfing activity group, and they're having their big end-of-summer tournament on Sunday at 11:30! Everyone playing should get out to the course by then. It's amazing how far some of those guys can hit the ball – I can't even putt mine through the alligator's mouth when I play! Hope everyone brings home lots of prizes, or makes a hole-in-one, or something good. Hooray!

On Your Marks! Get Set! GO!!!

Don't be a Sleepy Stanley or a Tired Tina – rise and shine early tomorrow morning for the 20th Annual Charlie Orr Memorial Fun Run, which starts at 9:30. Remember – no matter how fast you Run, it's supposed to be Fun, and **EVERYONE** who participates is a **WINNER!**

Westward Ho! Or Eastward Ho!

Can't believe the end of the summer is almost here? Neither can I! We're going to miss you all *so much* – but one easy way to turn that frown upside down is to think about where you want to go to Camp Bread Loaf **next** year! If you think that you want to join the Eaglet Gang in Alaska for nature walks, fishing, and their Bear Necessities weekend campouts, troop on over to Barn 1 at 5 today to hear Director Jim tell you all about it.

Or you might like our exciting exchange program with the Oxford camp (that's in Jolly Old England, by the way). Every summer we send about sixty campers over there for the summer, and in exchange they agree not to send us any of their food! Afternoon activities there include punting (and I don't mean a football, either!), playgoing, and pubbing. And **Emily** will be back to tell you all about it on Monday in Barn 1!

We Have Great Student Writers...

Lots of 'em, really, but this Sunday five very special people will be reading in the Blue Parlor at 7:30. Their names are Kristin Kummer, Ed Brown, Charles Byrne, Kimberly Pope, and Molly Williams, and they've all worked *really really* hard on their writing, so they deserve a big Bread Loaf Camp Cheer! All together now...

Dickens, Twain, Dickinson, Edgar Allan Poe!

Who's the best camper that we know?

*It's YOU, yes, YOU, 'cause you're through and through
A true-blue Bread Loaf Star!*

Departure Slip – Return to the Front Desk

Your name: _____

Your dorm and room number: _____

Your planned departure date: _____

And Great Student Actors...

Cool Counselor Carol says that her Acting Workshop is ready to present their Big Show of scenes next week! The curtain goes up at 8 on Monday in Barn A. She promises that this show will be *even better* than last year's, when Susie McKnight wowed us all by reciting the names of *every* U.S. President in order, Stephanie Simmons did her impersonation of Gertrude Stein, and Josh Kim and "Bigfoot" Barry Woodson performed that hilarious version of "Who's On First?"

And Great Student Poets!

In between teaching lanyard-tying and water safety, Counselor Paul's been leading a little poetry group called - big surprise! - Paul's Poets. They'll be reading from the work they produced this summer at 8:15 on Monday in big ol' Barn 2. (Hope there are lots of *nice* poems about pretty flowers and rainbows and about how everyone should just get along!) Let's have a big show of Bread Loaf Spirit and cheer these great little writers on!

Barn 1 Becomes the Play Room on Monday

After five productions of that great play *Measure for Measure*, you'd think the Acting Ensemble would just say a big "Phew!" and take it easy for a while - but nope! On Monday at 7 in Barn 1 you can join in a community discussion of the play. Alan and some of the actors will be there to answer all of your questions - like how they remember all of those lines! (I can't remember my computer password - guess I wouldn't make it too far on stage!) Just remember to Raise Your Hand and Wait Your Turn! And remember that Brian only *plays* a mean, mean man on stage - in person, he's actually really nice! (See, that's what makes him a *really good actor*!)

Big Things to Remember Before You Go

Remember that if you want to come back next year, you need to fill out a Reapplication Form. They're located outside the Office. (My guess - what would you do if you forgot? Can you imagine how awful that would be? Especially if that was the summer you were going to graduate from a Pioneer Pup to a Frontier Fox!) You can also find Transcript Request Forms there. Both are really easy to fill out - you don't even need a parent's signature! - so don't forget.

If you are leaving us soon, remember to turn in your I.D. card and Evaluation Forms before you go. Jim and Emily want to hear *all about* your summer here. You could even draw some big smiley faces next to stuff you liked to make it easier for them to see just what your favorite things were!

Last Big Nature Walk - to the Frost Reading!

Boy, Paul's sure got the poetry bug on Monday, because he's also arranged a really cool late-night activity! At 10:30 on Monday, he'll meet you up at the Homer Noble Farm, where everyone who wants can read a poem or two by Robert Frost! It'll be kind of dark and probably chilly, so bring your flashlight and something soft to sit on. You never know what will happen! Remember last year, when Paul held the flashlight under his chin and looked really scary? He told everyone the spooky story about how the one-handed boy from "Out, Out-" is still searching for his other hand, and how he wanders around Bread Loaf at night with an axe, and when he finds a sleeping student whose hand is *just the right size*...WHOCK! Ooh...that kept me up at night, you bet!

No Brain Drain Here!

Hey, Ken Jennings - look out for Robbie Harold! She just can't miss a trivia question, it seems. Yup, Robbie, it was good old Bob Frost who was the crotchety chap mentioned yesterday. (What do you think the Smile Squad would think of him?) Anyone who gets today's trivia question right gets a free Popsicle from the Camp Canteen during afternoon free time!

Remember, You Can't Spell CARE Without CAR!

When we all pledge to be Helping Hands at the beginning of the summer, we MEAN it! And now lots of your friends need rides next week. Can you help? We KNOW you can! Will you help? We HOPE you will! A bunch of people need to get to Burlington soon: Heather Dewar and Eliza Wilmerding need on Wednesday afternoon, Laure Lansari on Thursday afternoon, Beth Beecham early Friday morning, Gary Metzenbacher on Saturday morning, and Heidi Rubin de la Borbolla early on Sunday. (Heidi will even pay for breakfast and gas - thanks, Heidi!) And Jen Crystal is trying to get to Maine for the weekend - anyone heading there who can take her? She's ideally looking to return to Vermont on Monday the 10th, but a one-way trip would be OK too!

Kalli and Ed Aren't Bill and Ted...But They STILL Had an Amazing Adventure!!

What a bike trip Kalli and Ed had last weekend - around practically the whole state of Vermont. Kalli left at 2:30 in the morning (wow!), spotting a strange man by the Barn (maybe it's the "Out, Out-" ghost!!!), and Edward left at 8:40 to meet him. By 8:45, Kalli was all the way to Morrisville, where he stopped and had lunch. (Lunch at 8:45?!? Well, that's Kalli for you!) By 10:45 he was in Waitsfield, and at 11:30 they met up - in Warren! Turns out Edward had forgotten his money and cell phone, so Victoria brought them out to him. (Kids, remember: *Never* leave on a long hike or overnight camp without your supplies!) They went through Killington, Tyson, and back to Hancock, and got home in time for Suppressed Desires! What a day. Ed's got the map at the Front Desk if you want to see all the fun places they went.

I Didn't Know You Could Buy THAT!!

Boy, it's a good thing none of *these* things come in the care packages your families send - we'd have to confiscate them *for sure*!

Top Ten Items Sold Under-the-Counter at the Bookstore

16. You don't want to know. (PL)
15. Head-of-Ragozine keychain. (COBE)
14. Extra Director's Reception invitations. (COBE)
13. Sealed documents in the BALCO case incriminating BLSE tennis phenoms Brown and Huddle. (NBB)
12. Portable cell phone tower. (FS)
11. Smart Juice. It tastes like an open cesspool, but would you ever drink it again? See.... you're smarter already! (NBB)
10. Anti-Gilmore Cream. (LOL)
9. *The Complete Guide to Ripton Nightlife*. (FS)
8. Stash of Ed's Bread Loaf "Mountain Brew." (FS)
7. Robert Frost Rolling Papers™. (LOL)
6. Larch Porch-In-A-Can. (LOL)
5. Crazy Uncle Elder's Maple Sugar Moonshine. (NBB)
4. *Wishbone's Guide to Classic Literature*. (FS)
3. "Transcendentalists Gone Wild" DVD. (COBE, LOL)
2. Titles from Cinemax's "Hot Summer Nights" adaptations of Shakespeare: *Measure This!*, *All Swells Can't End Swell*, *Much I'll Do with This Thing*, and *Coriolanus*. (NBB)
1. Ed Brown's "other" photos. (COBE)

Standings: MOA 26, COBE 20, NBB 19, FS 17, LOL 17, WS 10, IM 8, FD 6, DA 6, WOB 9, BB 2, WOC 2, GOG 2, PL 3, RRN 1.

And we have **ONE MORE Top Ten Topic!** The list will be published in the final *Crumb* next Wednesday. It's **Top Ten Secrets Jim Plans to Divulge in His Closing Speech**. Ideas due to the *Crumb* by Wednesday at 11 a.m.

Well, as Porky Pig says, "That's all, folks!" My fingers are tired, and the exclamation point on my keyboard is wearing out!!! (Wonder why?)

The Crumb Final Exam

Volume 85, Number 30

Tuesday, August 3, 2004

Quotable

"Finished, it's finished, nearly finished, it must be nearly finished..."

-Beckett, Endgame

Schedule

Book Swap
2-5, Inn Porch

Yoga
5:00, Barn 2

Mexico Info Meeting
5:00, Barn 1

Slide Show
9:30, Barn

Dinner

Linguini with pesto cream or beef stroganoff; broccoli; lemon sponge cake for dessert.

Weather

Today:
Scattered storms, 84/62.

Tomorrow:
Partly cloudy, 77/57.

Graduation Weekend:
Chance of storms, low 70's.

The Art of Love: Identification

Directions: Name four of the many couples who met at Bread Loaf. (Ellen and Piney do **not** count.) One example has been provided for you.

1. Jen Welch and Heath Hansum (engaged Friday!!!)
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Mexico "Fact Or Fiction?"

Directions: Check the blank next to things that can likely be found at or near Bread Loaf's Guadalajara campus. If you're unsure about a given answer, perhaps you should ask Jim Maddox at **today's informational meeting at 5 in Barn 1.**

- _____ Enriching, lively classes
- _____ Orozco murals
- _____ Midsummer visit from Jim Maddox
- _____ Unbelievably swift sombrero-wearing rodent, regularly seeking to obtain valuable cheese by outwitting cat with speech impediment
- _____ Bustling city of six million
- _____ *Eleña*, a fictional dialogue between a young Guadalupean girl and a saguaro cactus

Forms Fill-In

Directions: Complete evaluation forms and return them to the Office. Using your good judgment, determine whether it is appropriate (A) or inappropriate (I) to mention the following subjects:

- _____ Quality of instruction
- _____ Criticism of Director's lack of control over weather
- _____ Suggestions about ways to enhance social life
- _____ Aesthetic appeal of fellow students
- _____ Evaluation of residential experience
- _____ Insufficient quantity of Tone-Loc songs at dances

Book Swap Word Problem

Directions: Given the load-bearing capacity of your suitcase, car, or shipping box, calculate how many pounds of books you must shed, or can acquire, at **today's Book Swap** (2-5, Inn Porch). You may request an extension until tomorrow, when the Book Swap will continue.

UPS Mathematics

Directions: Bring sealed boxes to Front Desk tomorrow or Thursday morning to arrange for UPS shipping. Using standard UPS shipping rates, calculate the cost of sending the following items (weights provided) to the indicated destinations.

- Adirondack chair (21 lbs.) to Missoula, Montana
- Pet bathroom earwigs (1 oz.), to Hilo, Hawaii
- Susanne Wofford's collected reserve reading (2,384 lbs.) to Biloxi, Mississippi

Miscellaneous Matching

Directions: Put an "M" next to all tasks that are **mandatory**. Put an "O" next to tasks that are **optional**. Put a "P" next to tasks that are **prohibited**.

- _____ Return cold or hot compresses borrowed over the summer to Cornwall
- _____ Disassemble Adirondack chair; stash in trunk
- _____ Return books to Library, ID card to Front Desk
- _____ Steal cans of yellow and green paint from supply shed; paint car, house, pet, and/or self in distinctive Bread Loaf colors
- _____ Complete reapplication form, campus evaluation, transcript request (if necessary)
- _____ Leave generous tips at Front Desk for Waitstaff and housekeepers
- _____ Adopt cute young fox cavorting outside Library
- _____ Take last van runs (W 2:00, Th/F 9:00) downtown
- _____ Refuse to depart; claim "squatter's rights" at Frost Cabin

Senior Self-Expression Project

Directions (SENIORS ONLY): Pick up and pay for **Commencement regalia** from the Bookstore. Use concealing properties of lengthy black gown as opportunity to express your *true* Suppressed Desire through choice of apparel underneath (lederhosen, Wonder Woman costume, nothing at all).

Shakespeare Scenes Multiple Choice

Directions: Determine which of the following scenes (**final projects for Alan MacVey's class**) you will attend tonight (starting at 7:30 at John's Pond, then moving to Barn 1):

- a) 7:30 Renee Lewin and Micki Kaplan (*The Dream*)
- b) 7:50 Kimberly Pope (*The Taming of the Shrew*)
- c) 8:00 Rachel O'Keefe (*Romeo & Juliet*)
- d) 8:10 Alan Reeder (*Twelfth Night*)
- e) 8:20 Sarah Phipps (*Macbeth*)
- f) 8:30 Dan Cummings (*Macbeth*)
- g) All of the above.

Tempest True/False

Directions: Alan MacVey's class is giving a **staged reading of *The Tempest* tomorrow at 2 at John's Pond**. Come for the whole reading or a portion of it. Identify the following statements about the play as TRUE or FALSE.

- _____ The story takes place on a remote island.
- _____ The plot was only slightly adapted for the upcoming *Survivor: Bermoothes*.
- _____ Prospero and Miranda survive only because of fortuitous washing ashore of various FedEx packages, including a volleyball that becomes their closest friend.
- _____ Prospero decides to give up his magical abilities.
- _____ Everybody dies in climactic kung-fu showdown.

Ed-ucated Guesses for Slide Show

Directions: Estimate how many of each of the following types of shots will appear during Edward Brown's **annual Slide Shows, tonight and tomorrow at 9:30 in the Barn.**

- _____ Adirondack chair angled toward brilliant Vermont sunset
- _____ Vermont sun setting brilliantly over perfectly positioned Adirondack chair
- _____ Brilliant student watching sun set from Adirondack chair

Ride Calculations

Directions: Andrew Mahlstedt needs to get to Boston Saturday morning. Heather & Eliza Wilmerding want to go to Burlington Wednesday afternoon. Gary Metzenbacher needs a ride to the airport on Saturday morning. And Heidi Rubin de la Borbolla is trying to get there on Sunday morning. Assuming that each of them will pay for gas and a small snack along the way, how much money and how many Otis Spunkmeyer muffins could you reasonably expect to collect by providing **all** of them with rides?

Senior Reception Reminder

Directions: Attend **tomorrow's Senior Reception** at Earthworm Manor (5-6 p.m.) By party's end, declare which type of Bread Loaf alum you have chosen to become: Casual (frequent thoughts of Vermont, possible occasional returns), Habitual (definite return for Suppressed Desires and/or play in 2005), or Serious Addiction Problem (enrollment in M.Litt. program, application to join faculty).

Schedule Section

Directions: Place an "X" next to those events which you plan to attend. Alert Victoria, if necessary, about your plans to attend **Saturday's Commencement banquet.**

- _____ Tomorrow's Farewell Dinner
- _____ Friday's Senior Prom, 9-1
- _____ Saturday's cookout lunch, 12:30
- _____ Commencement Banquet, 6:00 Saturday (**if you're not a senior, a guest of a senior, or a waiter, but plan to attend, let Victoria know NOW**)
- _____ Commencement, 8:15 Saturday
- _____ Champagne Reception, following Commencement

Syrup Strategy

Directions: Buy Chris Brady's real Vermont maple syrup today and tomorrow in the Library. Taking into consideration your diet, your cooking ability, and your ownership or non-ownership of a griddle, calculate how much syrup you need to purchase in order to avoid the shock and dismay of a midyear reversion to the abomination that is Mrs. Butterworth's.

15% of Room and Board Comes To...?: Tipping

Directions: Calculate the monetary value of each of the following services provided on a regular basis by housekeepers or members of the Waitstaff. Deposit tip in amount of final calculation at the Front Desk before you depart.

- Serving and clearing plates 2 times/day X 6 weeks = _____
- Providing coffee upon request 731 times/summer = _____
- Staffing Blue Parlor for faculty's after-dinner port, cigars, cordials 3 hrs./night X 6 weeks = _____

- Cleaning bathrooms 3 times/week X 6 weeks = _____
- Mopping, dusting, etc. 3 times/week X 6 weeks = _____
- Shoe removal 3 times/week X 6 weeks = _____
- Recyclable bottle removal Once/week X 6 weeks = _____
- (Annex residents: 4 times/day X 6 weeks = _____)
- Fresh flowers in room, turn-down service, mint on pillow (Associate Director only) daily X 6 weeks = _____

Determining Percentages: The Bookstore Sale

Directions: Given the Bookstore's 20% discount this week (tomorrow 8:30-12:30; Th/F 9-12) on just about everything in the store, calculate the sale price of the following popular items:

- Chef Mike's 50 Favorite B-12 Shake Recipes @ \$23.50
- One Hundred Years of Solitude @ \$14.00
- Emergency backup pair of Gilmore pants ("so key") @ \$32
- Middlebury travel mug @ \$7.95
- Angelo's Favorite Pick-Up Lines for Nuns (pamphlet) @ \$1.75
- Cinnamon Altoids @ \$1.89
- "Sausage" (available in XL/XXL/XXXXXL only) @ \$14 / \$ 21 / \$34

Memory board

Directions: Contribute a memory to the Senior Memory Boards (found in the Inn lobby and the Barn) so that your reminiscences can be shared by the entire community at the Commencement reception.

Determine whether the following memories are Entirely True (ET), Somewhat Embellished (SE), or Completely Fabricated (BS).

- _____ Ah, Johnson Pond...the warmth of the water, the slide, the inner tube races, the adjacent Jacuzzi...
- _____ There was always a big bowl of these little round sweet blue things at breakfast...they were really good...what were they called?
- _____ When everyone *thought* that the moose at Suppressed Desires was just Tom Fitzgerald's costume. Then it trampled four people.

Quotation Identification

Directions: Test your memory of Bread Loaf 2004 by identifying the correct source of each of the following quotations:

1. "I don't want to listen anymore."
 - a) Dance attendee disenchanted with music selection
 - b) Asher Muldoon during Paul's poetry reading
 - c) Your professor, in his/her own head, during *every one* of your contributions to discussion this summer
2. "Teach your genitals to sing."
 - a) David Huddle, reciting poem on that subject during his reading
 - b) Pop-up ad on spyware-infected Apple Cellar machine
 - c) Attempted pickup line of Man of Annex during seemingly opportune private moment on porch
3. "It's a sausage!"
 - a) Lea Kelley explaining unidentifiable entrée to confused diner
 - b) Brian McEleny going to great lengths during *The Beard of Avon*
 - c) Target of successful pickup line in 2(c), fifteen minutes later
4. "O thou pernicious caitiff!"
 - a) Isabella, describing Angelo in *Measure for Measure*
 - b) Emily, venting spleen at Jim's tales of Guadalajara nightlife upon returning from Mexico campus
 - c) Crumb Bum to unnamed individual who just beat him to last Rice Krispie Treat on tray of leftover desserts in Barn
5. "I promise you -- by next summer."
 - a) John McCardell to BL students, guaranteeing a pond by 2005
 - b) Jim to Emily, who's wanted her own office for the longest time
 - c) Larch residents to security guard, when asked when latest porch party will conclude

Homework: Top Ten List

Homework: Strengthen the bond among residents of your dormitory by using tonight's porch conversation to brainstorm ideas for **Top Ten Secrets Jim Plans to Divulge in Tomorrow's Farewell Speech.** Write said answers down and submit them to the Crumb mailbox (real or electronic) by 11 a.m. tomorrow. This last Top Ten list of the summer will appear, along with the final standings, in tomorrow's issue.

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 31

Wednesday, August 4, 2004

Quotable

*"The woods are lovely, dark, and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep."
-Robert Frost*

Schedule

The Tempest
2:00, Pond

Book Swap
2-5, Inn Porch

Senior Reception
5:00, Earthworm

Iraq Documentary
8:00, Barn 1

Slide Show
9:30, Barn

Dinner

Cornish game hen with raspberry sauce and mashed potatoes or ravioli with roasted cherry tomato sauce; cream cheese brownies.

Weather

Today:
Sun & clouds,
76/57.

Rest of the Week:
Rainy and chilly.
Highs 65-70.

Next Summer:
Glorious.
Come back.

Our Revels Are Not Quite Ended

Alan MacVey's acting class will present the fruit of their summer's labors, a staged reading of *The Tempest*, this afternoon at 2 at John's Pond. Alan advises audience members to arrive via the Gilmore road entrance to the John's Pond area. Feel free to stay for the entire reading (about two hours) or for any portion of it.

Ultimate "Mmmm..."

The Class of 2004 will be treated to a champagne reception this afternoon from 5-6 at Earthworm Manor. Seniors should make sure that any faculty members they must elbow out of the way to reach the enormous bowls of shrimp are not ones who directly control their academic fates.

Movie-in' Out

There will be a screening of the documentary *Uncovered: The Whole Truth about the War in Iraq* in Barn 1 tonight at 8 (just before the slide show). Everyone is welcome.

Parting Shots

Relive your six weeks on the Mountain by attending tonight's slide show at 9:30 in the Barn. A fun game to play during the parade of photographs is "Spot Next Year's Course Catalog Cover." Anyone who does not say "Awww..." at the pictures of faculty children, or "oohhhh..." at the glorious sunsets, will be singled out and mercilessly questioned about their apparent heartlessness.

Exchange Ends

"Pleasure reading," a term that becomes rather ill-defined in the minds of Bread Loafers over the course of the summer, refers to a person's decision to read certain texts for *pure enjoyment* and without the attendant lengthy essays. If this strange notion strikes you as appealing, perhaps you should check out the Book Swap this afternoon on the Inn porch. Everything there is yours for the taking; alternately, you can rid yourself of unwanted titles by leaving them there.

Shipping Out

Ed will gladly coordinate UPS shipping for any packages you bring to him tomorrow morning between 9 and 12, but after that, you'll have to head to the Post Office or Mail Boxes Etc. on your own.

Last Rites

Thursday and Friday provide opportunities for well-deserved shopping sprees in Burlington, final trips to Pleiad, one last float at A&W, or any other activity you haven't had time for recently. On **Friday night**, however, you'll want to return by 9 for one last dance – the traditional **Senior Prom**. In most outward respects, the Prom is indistinguishable from an ordinary dance. At midnight, however, will be crowned the Prom King, Queen, and Court, who will then entertain us with a Dance Royale.

Saturday's Commencement activities kick off with a **cookout**, open to the entire community and seniors' families, at **12:30**. The afternoon is free for touring Bread Loaf, exploring Middlebury, or packing the car. Shortly before 6:00, the seniors will meet in the Blue Parlor, whence they will process into the Dining Hall, some escorted by the faculty or staff member of their choice, for the **Commencement Banquet**. Senior Class President Gary Montano will speak at the conclusion of the dinner. Then the seniors return to the Blue Parlor to bedeck themselves in their caps and gowns, while the rest of us proceed to the Burgess Meredith Little Theatre for the **Commencement ceremony, which starts at about 8:15**.

After receiving their diplomas and touching Gamaliel Painter's walking stick (which is *not* a euphemism, as much as it may sound distressingly like one), everyone adjourns to a **reception in the Barn**, where champagne will be poured, congratulations offered, pictures taken, and lots of hugs given and received. Then there's one last night of porch conversations (which may continue with impunity past the customary 11 p.m. curfew), reminiscences, and laughter. The next morning, those few who remain will go to breakfast at 8, say their goodbyes, and make their way off the mountain – just for a while, we hope, not for forever.

Last Words

Just when you think you've done all the writing you have to do this summer, Jim asks you to take the time to fill out an evaluation form if you have not already done so. Let him know what went right and what went wrong with Bread Loaf 2004, so that he and Emily can work to make Bread Loaf 2005 even more splendid and sensational.

Kiddie Care

Croutons will provide child care on Saturday night, but you **must** make a reservation with them **today**.

PROM 2004 OFFICIAL ROYAL BALLOT

KING: _____

QUEEN: _____

-return this form to the Front Desk-

Shutting Down

If you need to keep up with the latest news on backstreetboys.com, want to continue checking your e-mail, or (gasp!) still have to finish that one last paper, normal Apple Cellar hours prevail today. After that, a gradual diminishment: Thursday 8:30-12, 2-5, 7-9, Friday 9-11 and 2-4, and Saturday 9-11. If you'd like to download BreadNet onto your laptop or home computer, you can pick up an easy-to-follow instruction manual in the Apple Cellar. And please remember to pay for all of your summer's laser printing.

Last Supper

The Kitchen staff will gladly feed you at walk-through meals tomorrow and Friday, but if you're planning to stay through graduation and need a seat for Saturday's Commencement Banquet, you **must** see Victoria to reserve a spot.

A Few Last Tips

Before you leave, please remember that it's Bread Loaf tradition to tip the Waitstaff and the housekeepers for their tireless labors this summer. What you donate gets evenly divided among the many waiters and housekeepers, so calculate accordingly and give as generously as you can.

Final Dress

According to fashion pundit and erstwhile Shakespearean Emily Bartels, this year the "new black" is...black. Good fortune for the seniors, who get to stride across the Theatre stage on Saturday looking resplendent in their fashionable ebon regalia. If they remember to pick it up at the Bookstore by tomorrow, that is. Anyone who forgets has to graduate wearing a vintage Pucci dress and a Jimmy Carter mask.

End Notes

A reminder to all Madrigalists staying through graduation: We will meet very briefly at 5:30 on Saturday in the Barn to run through the piece we will perform during the Commencement ceremony.

Nothing Gold Can Stay

...although if you buy enough of Chris Brady's maple syrup, it can linger for quite a while. Chris will be in the Library again today dispensing his liquid gold; stop by to pick up some for yourself or for friends who haven't yet realized that a picture of a log cabin on the squeeze-bottle's label is no guarantee of authentic Vermont taste.

Compress Desires

Cornwall Clinic lent out a number of hot and cold compresses over the summer to heal Ultimate Frisbee muscle-pulls and alleviate writer's cramp, but now they'd like those compresses back, please. If you have one, please return it.

Everything Must Go

The Bookstore's end-of-summer 20%-off sale continues tomorrow and Friday from 9-12 for those who find themselves suddenly suffused with a wave of nostalgia that only souvenir T-shirts, texts, and travel mugs will quench.

Save the Best for List

In an act of either great magnanimity or pronounced indolence, the Men of Annex politely declined to submit entries to the Top Ten List, allowing themselves to be dethroned as summer champions by the recently combined North Branch/Barn East forces. Congratulations to them, and thanks to everyone who submitted to the lists all summer long.

Top Ten (or so) Secrets Jim Plans to Divulge in Tonight's Speech

15. Bread Loaf is actually a FOX reality show, "Joe Schmo at Dork Camp," and everyone's an actor except you. Which means *you* are Joe Schmo. (LOL)
14. The beer at the dances was non-alcoholic the whole time. Suckers! (COBE/NBB)
13. After his speech, will grace us with some breakdancing. (FS)
12. He would tell you, but the first rule of Fight Club is that you're not allowed to talk about Fight Club. (COBE/NBB)
11. Will reside at Gilmore next year. (LOL)
10. Kebab vans at all campuses next year. (COBE/NBB)
9. Next year's Poet-in-Residence will be 50 Cent. (COBE/NBB)
8. Next year's dramatic production will be "Chekhov on Ice." (COBE/NBB)
7. Looks forward to lap dances from Jimmy Carter. (FS)
6. New course for next year: "The History of Nantucket and its Inhabitants-Dirty Limerick Writing." (COBE/NBB)
5. Name of the student who was this year's Admissions Office mistake. (LOL)
4. Once carried alcohol beyond the twine. (FS)
3. Reminder that everyone needs to help put Ed Brown back in his cage. (COBE/NBB)
2. His recent tattoo is one of many. (FS)
1. He never learned how to read. (COBE/NBB)

Final standings:	Children of Barn East/North Branch Boys	47
	Men of Annex	26
	Fyler Sisters	21
	Ladies of Larch	20

The Crumb Expands Its Staff

Volume 85, Number 29

Monday, August 2, 2004

The Puzzler

Which of today's columnists is related to Harriet Beecher Stowe?

Schedule

Yoga 5:00, Barn 2

**Oxford Meeting
5:00, Barn 1**

**Measure
Discussion
7:00, Barn A**

**Paul Muldoon's
Class Reading
8:15, Barn 2**

**Acting Scenes
8:30, Barn A**

**Frost Reading
10:30, Frost Cabin**

Dinner

Steak with tobacco onions and garlic or roasted stuffed tomatoes filled with couscous; chef's choice pie for dessert.

Weather

Today:
Mostly sunny,
85/63.

Tomorrow:
PM T-storms,
82/62.

Wednesday:
Partly cloudy,
79/57.

from "Love Song of J. Oxford Prufrock"

Let us go then, you and I,
When the evening begins to spread out against the sky
Today, to **Barn 1 at 5:00...**

If you would go to Oxford's bustling busy streets,
The muttering retreats
Of restless nights with Joyce or Blake or Donne
And dartboard pub evenings with Speckled Hen.
If you would like to hear Jim's argument
Or if an Oxford summer's your intent,
Jim will answer all your overwhelming questions...
Oh, Oxford is indeed exquisite,
Come today to plan your visit.

(Same time, same place, tomorrow go
To talk of Bread Loaf in Mexico.)

from Howl and Cheer for the Actors

I have seen the best actors of our student body perform
stunning hilarious noteworthy,
dragging their fans to **Barn A at 8:30 for an acting fix**,
levelheaded actors burning for the ancient theatrical
connection to the starry dynamo that is Stephen
Thorne,

who saw Michelle Tallada and Marty Andrews perform
from *Two Rooms* by Lee Blessing,
who watched Rebecca Coleman and Sushma Joshi deliver
Proof by David Auburn,

who marveled at Thomas Forteith and Jennie Klein in *The Swan* by Elizabeth Egloff,

who applauded Rebecca Karush and Nancy Schein for
Bits 'n Pieces by Corinne Jacker,

who sat in awe at Eric Gamble and Annie Tsang's scene
from *Let's Play Two* by Anthony Clarvoe

who thought Tim Miller and Hunter Gourley were great
in *Lonely Planet* by Steven Dietz

who loved *Measure* veterans Marisa Ortega and Christian
Clarke in *Fool For Love* by Sam Shepard,

to recreate the syntax and measure of poor human prose
and stand before you speechful and intelligent and
filling with pride, confessing out the soul to conform
to the rhythm of thought,

with the absolute heart of the plays leaping out of their
own mouths and bodies good to remember a dozen
years.

Haiku for Paul's Poetry Class by Basho

They will read tonight
Barn 2 at quarter past eight.
Come to hear them, please:

Tena Cohen, Rob
Piazza, Tom Fitzgerald,
Radha Rao, Chris Holmes,

Rebecca Freeman,
Laird Kopp, Heidi Rubin de
la Borbola, John

Wihbey, Page Neubert,
Jessica Corr-Bolender,
Kara Hooper! Yes!

from Uncollected Poems by Emily Dickinson

**Tonight – in Barn A – Seven o'Clock –
Come – talk about the Play –**
With Actors and Director there
To hear – your Inquiry –

Ask how they moved – about the Stage
Or what the Ending means –
Why Duke is Cruel to Lucio –
Yet Pardons – Barnadine –

from "Sobering Thoughts" by Dylan Thomas

Do not go quietly into that good night.
All students should their summers **evaluate**.
Rage, rage against what's wrong, and praise what's right.

Wise students, too, must try to avoid the plight
Of forgetting to **re-apply** – but it's still not too late.
Turn that form in, too, before you say "good night."

Need transcripts to set things at home aright?
Outside Elaine's office those forms as well await.
I hope your grades, when they come, fill you with delight.

Returning your I.D. card is one final rite
Before you go, for so the Bread Loaf rules dictate.
And then you may go gently into that good, good night.

Departure Slip – Return to the Front Desk

Your name: _____

Your dorm and room number: _____

Your planned departure date: _____

**from *More Poems About Trees and Bugs and Birds*
by Robert Frost**

I'm going to Frost's cabin late tonight;
To read one of his poems in the gray
Of night (and listen to the others read, I may):
It shan't take too long. -- You come too.

I'm going out at ten-thirty tonight.
The forecast's nice, but night's so black,
You should bring a flashlight to get safely there and back.
I shan't be gone long. -- You come too.

**from *Waiting for Godot's Clothes*
by Samuel Beckett**

JILL: Where's my jacket? [Pause] I had a jacket, I think.

JON: A blue jacket?

JILL: And white.

JON: Perhaps it was both.

JILL: It was. I remember.

JON: A big jacket?

JILL: A men's medium, actually.

JILL: What should we do?

JON: Wait.

JILL: Wait?

JON: What else is there to do?

JILL: Nothing.

JON: Perhaps someone's seen it.

JILL: Perhaps.

JON: They'll return it to the Front Desk.

JILL: Will they?

JON: They might.

JILL: Who?

JON: Who knows?

JILL: What now?

JON: Wait.

JILL: Oh. [They wait. Pause. Long pause. Even longer pause.
Excruciatingly long pause. Blackout.]

from *Heck of a Sale, Man* by Arthur Miller

[WILLY enters.]

LINDA: Willy, what's the matter? You look worn out.

WILLY: I can't compete, Linda. I just can't keep up with him.

LINDA: With whom, Willy?

WILLY: With Ed. He's marked everything in the Bookstore down
20% this week, and he's staying open all morning between now and
Friday! I could do ten, maybe twelve percent, but...

LINDA: Maybe it's time to move on, dear.

WILLY: Where to? Where can we go? I see people bringing boxes to
the Front Desk all week, bringing things to ship home on UPS,
boxes to Tuscaloosa and Altoona, boxes to Salt Lake City and
Fairbanks. I used to own Fairbanks, I used to be able to walk into any
restaurant in town and get the best table, the best -- but now, Linda, now
it's like no one knows anyone anymore, like you don't even matter.

LINDA: You matter, Willy. You matter to me. And to Biff, who's
conveniently entering just now. [Enter BIFF.]

BIFF: Hi, Dad. How's tricks?

WILLY: Hey! There's my boy! Couldn't be better, son -- couldn't be
better. Say, what do you say, we go downtown -- just the two of us -- on
Thursday, get an ice cream sundae at Schrafft's, then catch that new
film at the Odeon?

BIFF: Dad, you can't drive the Studebaker anymore. And the last van
run's on Wednesday afternoon. So no, Dad, I don't think I can go.

WILLY: Oh. So that's how it is. A man tries to take his son out on the
town, and he gets dismissed. Out of hand. No gratitude in the world
any more.

from *The Bookswappers of Brizz* by Dr. Seuss

Who knows what you'll find at the Book Swap, my friend!

A copy of *Stories Without Any End*?

Or maybe *The Legend of Zifferus Zink*

(He's the one who invented the Studger, I think).

Just drop off your *Tales of the Mountains of Eck*

And pick up a nine-volume set of *The Threck!*

Don't need that edition of *Things That Go "Schlump"?*

Exchange it for *Quodlunk, The Scrump with a Hump!*

To the Inn Porch on Tuesday from two until five!

(And once more on Wednesday, my gosh sakes alive!)

You don't even have to contribute a thing

To take away books that you might want to bring

To your houses or castles, apartments or homes,

(Just keep them away from the Book-Gnawing Gnomes!).

from *Alice in Seniorland* by Lewis Carroll

"Earthworm Manor," read the sign above the door before which
Alice now found herself. "I hope that there's not an Earth-Worm
within!" thought Alice. She turned the latch and tiptoed into the room,
but saw no Earth-Worms -- only a bunch of Seniors chatting amiably,
sipping champagne and gorging themselves on unusually large shrimp.
"This must be **Wednesday's Senior Reception!**," she thought.

The March Hare was busy pouring champagne into the Mad
Hatter's watch-pocket. "Why, that's most odd!" said Alice.

"Strict doctor's orders," snapped the Mad Hatter. "He specifically
told me to *watch my diet*." At that particular moment, he seemed to be
watching the champagne trickle through the fabric of his waistcoat.

"I *told* you it wouldn't stay in there!" the Hatter said to the Hare.

"But it was the *best* champagne," meekly replied the March Hare,
whereupon they began to tussle with one another. Alice decided to step
away, and left just as the Mad Hatter was trying to stuff the March Hare
up the chimney.

from *All the Pretty Courses* by Cormac McCarthy

The golfcourse splayed itself upon the hillside. Players negotiating
scrubpines lining fairways and cursing intrusive mounds that diverted
chipshots away from the eyesocket hole. As if some illtempered
homunculus lay interred beneath the puttingsurface to mete out injustice
to passing foursomes. Through the miasmic vaporous afternoon came
Waters and Oleary and Damato and Freeman, sweatlaced quartet.

Well, said the professional. Howd you do.

We won the tournament, Oleary said. Lezra knocked it closest the
pin. And Eric Eye pounded the longdrive.

Huh. Dont that beat all, the professional responded. And he spat
onto the packeddown surface of the carpath and ambled into the shop,
whereupon the golfers hastened to the interior coolness of twobrothers
tavern and its beerlasses and nachoplatters and other doubledwords.

from "Enough About Myself -- Here's to You!"

by Walt Whitman

And now I celebrate and sing my fellow poets!

Of the one hundred and thirty one who submitted to adjudgment,
Of David Huddle and Paul Muldoon, kind and gracious readers both,
And to the winners of the Bread Loaf Poetry Contest!

To John Wihbey for "To a Friend, for Our Undoing," and no less
To Margaret Droge, for "Needle Vision."

(They are no rivals, they are my fellow-wordsmiths; we are engaged in
the same struggle, and I salute them for their triumphs;)

And with no less heartiness I congratulate the runners-up:

Liam Day! Becky Karush! Rebecca Makkai Freeman! Robert Piazza!

Names whose varying sounds suffuse my mouth, poets from
Connecticut and Illinois and Vermont, I sing of them!

For their successes, and their verses, and their thoughts, they are mine,

And my successes, and my verses, and my thoughts, they are theirs,

(But let them just try passing mine off as their own;

I am friend to all, but I know the copyright laws, and I am strict).

And I marvel at how I can just list a bunch of things and call it poetry.

from *The Adventures of Tom Senior* by Mark Twain

Seniors, you don't know about this without someone told you it before, but that ain't no matter. Miss Molly Williams and Miss Kelli Kuntz, they've went and put up a poster-board and some writin' tools like the ones they use to learn 'em in school in the Barn and in the Inn. What they're fixin' to do is have everyone write down memories or thinkings or some such, so's you and your friends and kinfolk can read 'em on Saturday after you're done gettin' graduated and all. I ain't 'a' goin' to be there, I reckon. I never did hold much for schoolin' and all.

yo

ga by e.e. cummings

w (i) ll b there
 2 (two)
 yo
 ga
 class
 es
 this week
 mondayandtuesdayafternoon
 from five to six
 in barn two tutu toodleoo

from *Portraits of Artists as Young Men and Women*
by James Joyce

-Going to show my photos of the summer, Ed Brown said cheerily cheekily.

-When? they asked. Curiosity filled the cataleptic students.

-Tomorrow! Ed said.

Hmm. Harumm.

It would be in the vasted spaciousplaced Barn at 9:30. Wednesday: again at 9:30. And so there the end.

Everybody's smiling working playing faces on the screen for all to see. Click. Clicketyclick. One picture to the next click click. Always liked the slide show, they did.

-Will you come? and I yes to say yes and him yes Barn yes and I will come and see the show yes I will Yes.

from *The Sypurer's Tale* by Geoffrey Chaucer

Mauch Syrupe Sweete for Saele then hadde He;

The Lybraeriane, one Chryse Bradye.

'Tis Mayde from Maplyes on his Farme,

And 'tis Delyciouse when Served on Pyncaykes Warmme.

'Twill Sell it he alle Throughe this Weyke,

So stoppe Bye, to taeke a Lytle Peke,

And Buye somme, for Thy Famylye and Fryends,

For Tasting It Means Sommere Nyvere Enddes.

from *The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway

"Do you need a ride?" I said.

"Yes," Rosie said. She needed a ride to Boston. She needed to get to Swampscott, which is an area in Boston. But she would accept any ride to Swampscott.

"Perhaps someone can give you a ride," I said. "When do you need to go?"

"On Sunday," she said. "It would be nice to get a ride."

“Someone will be going to Boston,” I said. “Someone is always going to Boston.” I was not going to Boston, so I did not offer to take her there myself. So Rosie waited for someone to put a note in Jenny Green-Lewis’ mailbox. It would be good, she thought, for someone to take her.

from "The Yellow News-paper"

by Charlotte Perkins Gilman

I think this room would drive me absolutely mad if I had no distractions. But how lucky it is to have a trivia question to challenge the mind!

John says that I mustn't strain myself, though.

I didn't know the answer to Friday's question. You had to see the play even to take a guess. I asked John if we might go some night, but he laughed and told me not to think of such things.

It would exhaust me so, he says, and I suppose he knows best.

The prisoners' numbers were their birthdates, he said. So he went without me.

But I *will* puzzle this one out! I am determined, and John need not know of my labors.

I try to think of the answer, but I find that it tires me so.

There's that woman again, behind the wall-paper! I could ask her, but I don't think she'd tell me.

Or maybe she would!

from *The Kvetcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger

One of the things they did at that old school was this Top Ten list, which was supposed to be a big deal or something. What it is is that there's this lousy topic, and people just knock themselves out coming up with answers they think are funny. Really they're about as funny as the chicken pox. My kid sister Phoebe, she's funnier than all of them put together. Anyway, this week everyone was getting all damn excited about **"Top Ten Secrets Jim Plans to Divulge in His Closing Address."** What a crummy title. Like the jerk who wrote it had to say "divulge" instead of "tell." He probably thought it made him look intelligent, but it just makes him look phony. I could tell. I have a very large vocabulary. But I don't give much of a damn about getting my name in print. I'll probably buy a paper on Wednesday just to see which damn phonies got their crummy answers into the lousy list.

The Crumb

Volume 85, Number 32

Thursday, August 5, 2004

When the nights began to grow chillier, heralding the end of yet another summer, Ellen made her way once more to the hillside, to her favorite spot where her good friend the old pine was waiting for her and for a visit that he knew would be their last for some time.

Once Ellen had settled herself comfortably at his roots, he spoke. "Tell the old pine, dearest Ellen, how you plan to celebrate the end of another summer. You have told me many times before, but I long to hear of those traditions once again."

"The old pine knows full well that there is a dance to-morrow night," Ellen replied. "All the young ladies and gentlemen come to sing and laugh and dance and share memories of their time together. There is to be crowned a King and Queen and Court – oh, dear pine, how Ellen wishes that some year she would be elected Queen!"

"Ellen is already Queen of much she surveys," the wise old pine observed. "But that is to-morrow only; what of the next day?"

"Old pine, there is the most marvelous luncheon spread out upon the lawn at half-past twelve," Ellen continued, "and then an entire afternoon of leisure. Perhaps I shall make one last trip to the town, or perhaps I shall just put my things in order. Our families, our friends, and those to whom we must soon say good-bye then celebrate at a magnificent banquet that evening. Next, we go to something called Commencement..."

"Commencement?" inquired the curious pine. "But surely this of which you speak is an ending, Ellen, not a beginning."

"The old pine should be wise enough to know that while those friends may be ending their time here, they are simultaneously embarking on new adventures, perchance every bit as wonderful as the ones they had in these mountains." The old pine's branches nodded in the breeze, as if in assent. "After this Commencement, we gather one last time in the Barn, meet each other's families, and give thanks all round for the summer we spend here. And perhaps this is the year Papa lets me drink my first champagne! Oh, Piney, it is a wonderful way to conclude a summer. I wish that you could be there to see it."

"Sometimes, Ellen, when the wind is westerly, the old pine can hear the rumble of conversation and the ripples of laughter make their way up the mountainside, even to where I stand. So I feel as though I know the joy of which you speak. But is there no more after that, Ellen?" he asked.

"Only that the next morning, those who want a final meal can find one spread out for them in the Dining Hall, and there say their final farewells of the summer. All that remains then is to pack the carriage and turn the horses in the direction one wishes to go," Ellen responded, with not a little twinge of longing in her voice. "Oh, old pine, it is near the time Papa said I should return! How I shall miss thee, dear friend! Tell me how I can best bear the time away from you."

The old pine stood awhile in thought, then said, "Ellen, both you and I possess the capacity of *memory*, and through this faculty will be able to summon up images and sounds, memories and stories, of our time together. I know I shall think of you while you are gone, and I have heard you many times say that you shall think of me. And when we do, Ellen, it is as if we are together once again – in spirit, if not in actuality. Even if you never returned to these mountains again – and I know, even though you may not, that one year that time will come – you would not leave my memory, nor I yours. And now, I think, it is time to say good-bye. I hear someone calling you."

"Then I must go. Good-bye, then, dear pine, until another year. We shall resume our conversations when I return, shall we not?" Ellen asked.

The pine replied, "Assuredly so, Ellen." And in due time she rose, and checked her bonnet to make sure that it was straight, and, after turning for one final wave, crested a small rise and was soon gone from the old pine's sight. He shook his branches slightly, as if before settling down to some long rest, and then stoutly resumed his watch over the valley and the hills beyond, which would soon settle into their customary tranquility, thence into a long winter, thence into another greenning, and thence into the summer which would bring his dear friend to him once again for the visits and conversations and abiding friendship which this peaceful and lovely setting had wrought.

And so he stood, and so he waited for her return.